april 12, 2000

crown

redeemer college's student newspaper

is it time to censor the bible?

maggie vandermeer

At the recent panel discussion on "How far is too far on the internet and in film?" several issues were brought up pertaining in particular to sex, violence, and swearing in film. I think this is an extremely important discussion to be having on an ongoing basis, and I'd like to make just three further comments on this topic.

In the first place, someone brought up Phil. 4: 8: "Finally brothers, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable — if anything is excellent or praiseworthy — think about such things." This text is often brought up in this type of discussion, and always to make the point that we should not be watching movies or reading books with sex, violence, and swearing in them because we're not supposed to think about these things. The text seems clear enough.

However, I think that using the text like this is a mistake, because it is being taken out of the context of the entire Bible in order to prove a point. Let's not forget that the Bible itself is full of sex and violence. Let's not forget Lot and his daughters, or David and Bathsheba, or how Absolom slept with all his father's concubines in the sight of all Israel, or the rape of Tamar by her brother Amnon. And the violence: Cain's murder of Abel, David and his

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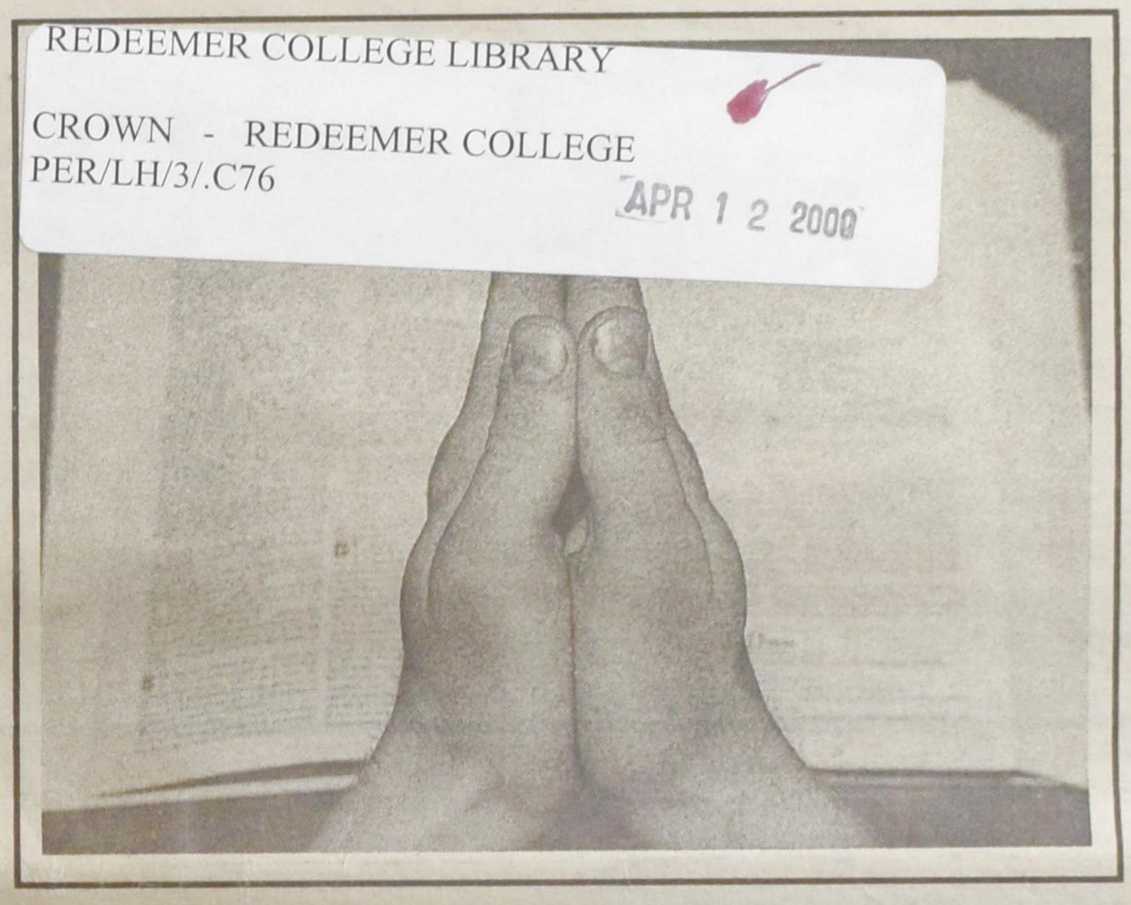
God: our faithful healer

a true story about abortion



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Sometimes it takes really tough times and devastating circumstances in our lives for us to realize the awesome power of God. At 22 years of age it was my desire to have a significant other in my life. He would care about me, he would tell me I was special and most of all, he would love me for who I was. God answered my prayer and He did send me someone. He was so very special and dear to my heart. Life was sweet; he was precious; I was so happy and secure.

At some point my focus changed. My boyfriend became my all in all. I put him above God and everything and everyone else. Because of this God let me have the desires of my heart and he lengthened the rope. God never let me go completely, but He did allow me to follow my own desires.

Psalm 81:11-12 *"But my people would not listen to me; Israel would not submit to me. So I gave them over to their stubborn hearts to follow their own devices."*

As a result, I broke my promise to God to remain pure until my wedding day, only to discover that I had conceived a child. For one moment of pleasure, a lifetime of heartache.

Trembling with fear and disbelief, I knew that many hard decisions had to be made. There were three options in my mind. I could go through with the pregnancy and become a single mother, I could go through with the pregnancy and give the child up for adoption, or I could abort this God-given human life. The first two options were not even a consideration because that involved vulnerability and sacrifice on my behalf. In serving my own sinful desires, I chose to have an abortion. I was concerned about my reputation, disappointing my parents, and the radical change it would mean in my lifestyle. I was determined that nobody needed to know my sin and I thought that I could cover it up. I did not feel that I could confide in anyone especially my parents; so my boyfriend and I made this decision on our own.

What I failed to consider was God's perspective. Life is God's most precious gift.

Psalm 139:13-14 *"For you created my inmost being; you knit me together in my mother's womb. I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made, your works are wonderful, I know that full well."*

Although this baby was conceived in sin, it was still a miracle nonetheless. After realizing this truth, the reality of my sin became very real. The consequences

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the secret underground anti-Dutch movement

angela reitsma

There is something about Christian schools in southern Ontario that I have never understood, and that is the secret underground anti-Dutch movement. This is a trend I noticed in grade six or so, when I heard two people talking delightedly about the fact that they did *not* have ancestors from Holland.

"You're not Dutch? Cool, me neither!" and a friendship was automatically established. Of course, the majority of students in southern Ontario Christian schools of any level were Dutch, and those who weren't found comfort with those who shared minority status. However, I didn't hear any kids back in grade six shouting the phrase "if you ain't Dutch, you ain't much," but I did hear person after person highlighting the fact that they weren't Dutch with pride. As if it were some repugnant form of leprosy the rest of us had caught, but they had cleverly avoided.

There was no use in *pretending* I wasn't Dutch, either. Whether I liked it or not, blond hair, blue eyes and the tell-tale suffix of "sma" labeled me irrevocably as Dutch before I could open my mouth to say "hi." I have no qualms about being Dutch, you understand-- I haven't legally changed my last name or pretended that I don't know the Frisian translations for washcloth and underwear. I wonder what I'm missing only when other people rejoice in front of me that they *aren't* Dutch, exchanging high fives and doing jig steps with others who aren't sure what day of the week to eat soup on. I feel a bit guilty, too, as if I should have planned ahead and *not* been Dutch. The fact of the matter is that my parents were born in the Netherlands, but I was born in Canada. As with any heritage, it's interesting to explore the stories behind immigration or the roots I still have in Holland, but I do not identify with being Dutch.

> *Why do people say "you're not Dutch? Cool, me neither."*

Ayn Rand said: "We're all brothers under the skin, and I, for one, would be willing to skin all of humanity to prove it."

But I don't think even olliebollen or Dutch bingo are really worth that. . . .

SPLITTING HAIRS

allan bick

My friend Alejandra has an fixation with my head.

Five years ago, when I first met Alejandra, I was bald. Not premature baldness, but shaved clean baldness, the result of a five dollar bet. (*That I kept the head shaved for a paltry five years means nothing.*) She immediately loved the gleaming scalp.

I didn't see Alejandra for about a year. Then out of the blue sky, like a superhero without a cape, she re-entered my life. And promptly slagged me down for growing my hair. Once she recognized me. She walked by me without even glancing in my direction, even though I was calling out her name.

"What do you think you're doing Dutch Boy? You look like normal. We all know you're not; what are you trying to prove?"

"Uhm, hi Alejandra, how are you?"

"Don't even go there Dutch boy and don't change the topic. What's with the dead scraggly animal on your head that you call a hair cut?"

From there the topic degenerated to outright prosecution.

She yelled at me about my hair, well actually she just talked loudly at me, and I weakly tried to defend myself. She mentioned how she had loved the nonconformist statement of a bald head on a boy who was fully capable of full hair growth, how it was aesthetically pleasing to view, how it was a symbol of my radical free-will political ideals, how it was a better conversation piece than that feeble attempt of art that I hang on my livingroom wall, and how the gleam from the scalp made it a necessity for her to wear sunglasses and she looked cool in sunglasses.

And now that I had grown it out, she didn't know if yelling at me would ever be the same; I had ruptured the relationship beyond repair. And then she left for class, muttering to herself and taking off her sunglasses. I was left alone on what was looking to be a grey rainy day.

But there is a happy side to the story.At the end of the day, she came up to me to tell me that she had finally accepted me for who I was (even if I was now just a typical Redeemer Dutch boy) and that the hair even looked good on me as it framed my face in an ever so tragic yet beautiful way.

In fact she had come to love it so much she wrote a poem about it:

Ode to Al's hair

The last time I say you
your cranium was to'tly bold.
All white and (a little) fuzzy on
the top.

But today is full of hair
that cutely frames your face.
And here is as I promised
my homage to your hair

The poem so touched my heart, I had to write one back:

Ode to Alejandra's long
and curly hair

Alejandra, when I first met you
your hair was long and curly
long and curly
oh so long and curly.

And now, now that I see you
after an absence of oh so long
your hair is still long and curly
long and curly
oh so curly and long
long and curly.

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"I get up. I walk. I fall down. Meanwhile, I am dancing."

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c/o Redeemer College
777 Garner Rd. East
Ancaster, Ontario
L9K 1J4
(905) 648-2131 ext. 4291
crown@redeemer.on.ca

Editors: Allan Bick
Angela Reitsma

Photo Editor: Amie Brisley
Photographers:
Kurt Seiders
Christine Vandenham
Arts Editor: Maggie Vandermeer
Opinions Editor: Joe Haveman
Spiritual Editors: Ken Dryfhout
Shamalla
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Christine Westra
Mark VanDooren
Denass Schilthuis
John Gils
Richard Van Holst

Faculty Advisor: Gene Haas
Advertising: Contact Jan Coleman or the crown office at (905) 648-2131 ext.#4291

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PITCH-IN WEEK
May 1-7

Re: Blood from Stones, Vol. 17, Issue 8.

Tuition increases: *blood from stones?*

The average amount that a Redeemer student

Dear Editors

I am usually very proud to call myself a Redeemer student, but not always. I love this school and its academic uniqueness. I love the students and their obvious commitment to a faithful life in Christ. Sometimes, however, we seem to be largely committed to ourselves.

We worked hard, long hours last summer in the blistering heat, or comforting camp kids far from home. Coming here for many of us means large debts and pauper lifestyles though we are conscious of the sacrifices we make to come here. We often don't think beyond ourselves. We maliciously criticize computer services, we think that our tuition and student fees entitle us to whatever library hours we deem fit, and we ask questions like, "Blood from Stones?" We fault Student Life for faulty furnaces and then ask if they really care about our well-being at all or if they are more interested in office space and window size. We all keep very good track of how much we, the student body, sacrifice to get here but we don't look at the other side of this sacrifice equation. In life that algebraic equation of sacrifice is called cooperation. How many of us are aware, really aware, of the sacrifices made everyday by the people on the other side of the equation?

I'm referring to the faculty, librarians, admission workers, administration, cafeteria and janatorial staff. Have you ever asked yourself why they are here? It's not for the money, the benefits or the luxurious hours. Three years ago, the administrators were worried about whether or not this place was going to survive. Who took those lean years the hardest? How often has the pay scale been ignored or have paychecks been late for these people?

Yet we hear "I pay student fees, I pay tuition, I pay for housing and ultimately I'm ENTITLED to those services. It's my RIGHT." Do students know that there are staff here whom work 40 hours a week and only receive barely more than what's classified by Revenue Canada as the poverty line?

At this point the future of Redeemer looks a little brighter: a 20% increase in the student body, new dormitories, promising developments to different programs. But we still have burdens to bear here and those burdens must be born equally, a balance of sacrifice must be found. As a student, your tuition is going up next year. We as an institutional body must bear that burden. Whenever we maliciously criticize the admissions office, or computer services, or the library services, we take a potshot at the number of people who slug it out here year after year, forfeiting better pay, better hours, better everything, including any sort of appreciation for hard work and dedication. "Blood from Stones"? It is possible because it happens every day.

In that statement lies the real purpose of this letter. We need to thank these people often, not only for the sacrifices they've made, but even more importantly, for the real life examples of what it means to be a servant in God's kingdom. Thank them for their patience, thank them for the diligence and humbleness with which they serve God and the students. Thank them for the example they are to you.

Ian DeWaard

spoon-fed responsibility

Should a university student be penalized for missing classes to attend extra-curricular activities?

Even if the student's G.P.A. is high and missed classes have no effect on their grades? A number of Redeemer professors use attendance as a means of reducing a student's final grade–up to five percent–if he or she misses classes without a valid reason.

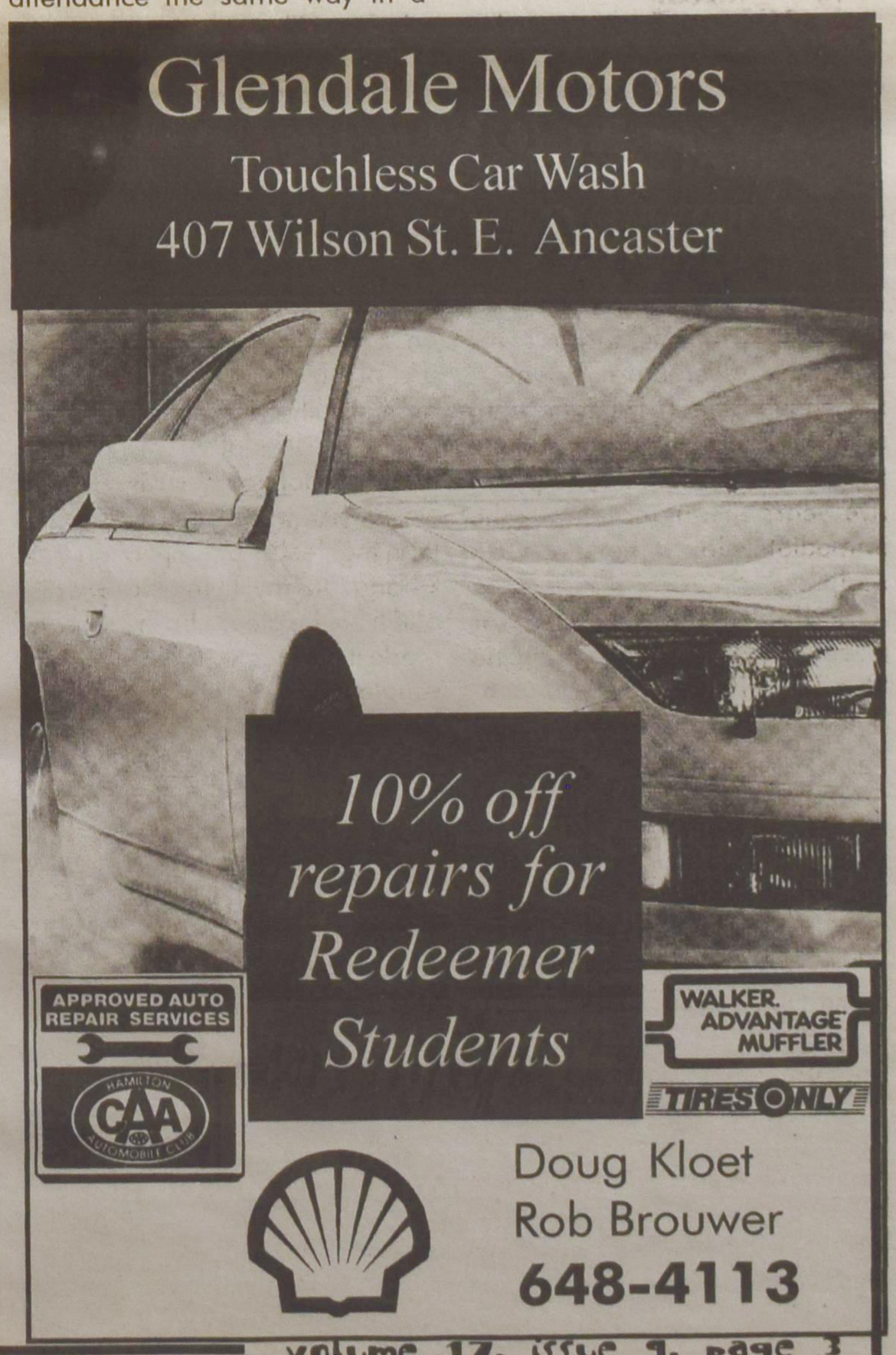
Is that fair? Why should someone be penalized for participation in athletics, theatre, choir and praise teams, or student senate. Anyone can relate to wrestling over the decision to participate in an activity rather than attend class. It should be the students' choice to responsibly determine the necessity of one activity over another, with the instructors recognizing and respecting the need for adult students to make decisions away from the shadow of any penalty.

Attendance keeps elementary and high-school kids in class under the threat of disciplinary action, which is appropriate for children. Unfortunately, using attendance the same way in a post-secondary setting places us as students–regardless of age, maturity, or achievement–with those whose primary goal is not academic excellence. We choose to come here and we pay for it: shouldn't a university student want to stay in class?

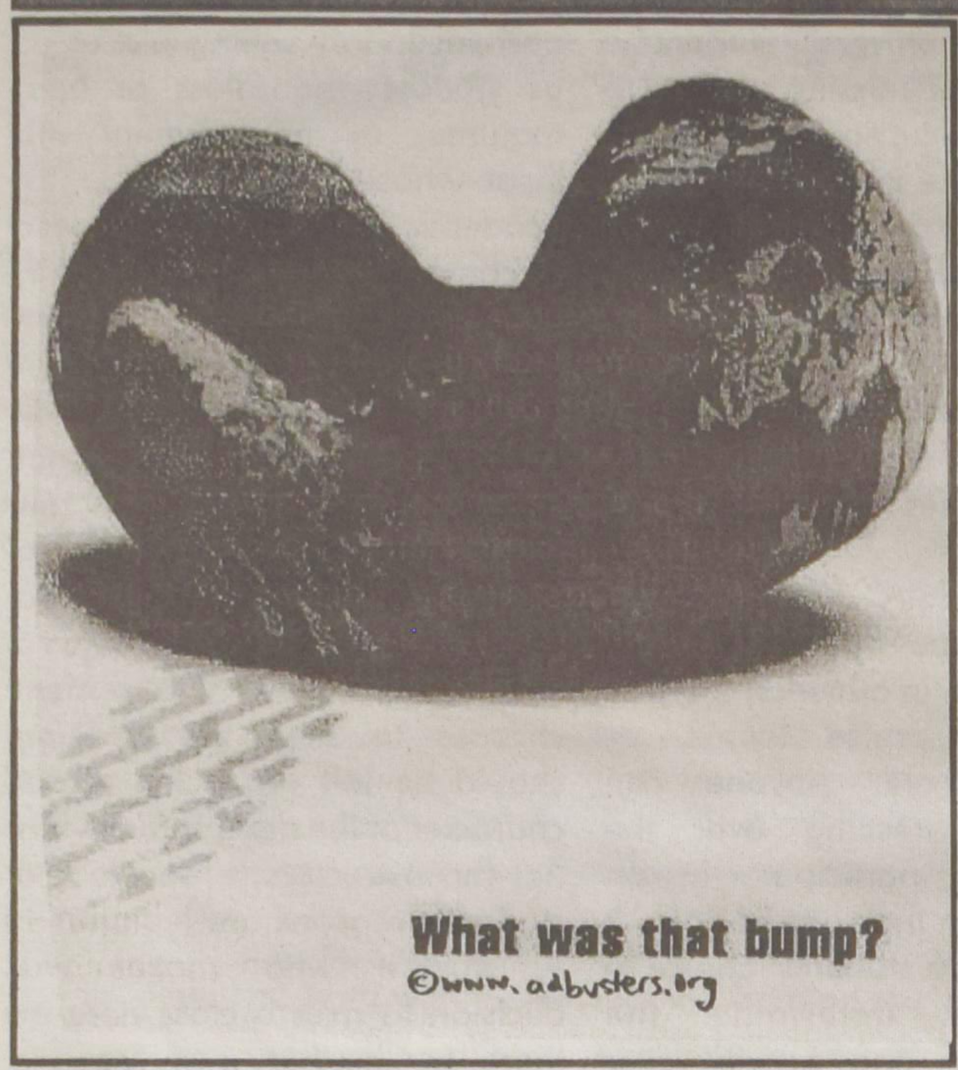
Of course, some students will choose to miss class when it's not necessary. But who does this affect other than the person who misses classes regularly and finds him/herself unprepared come exam-time? If a student chooses to skip, the decision should be left up to the moral character of the adult student–it is not for instructors to decide if a student's reasons are legitimate. A student who makes the decision to miss a class here or there for his/her own reasons should not be questioned, and certainly not punished, by an instructor who seeks to instill some long-neglected sense of responsibility in their pupils.

Why enforce a system that babysits students who probably should not be at university at all?

Brent van Staalduinen



"the Environmental Disaster: Are we to Blame for our Lifestyles?"



What was that bump?
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A REVIEW OF CRYSTLE NUMAN'S COLLOQUIUM

by Denass Schilthuis

The majority of people are not receptive to managing creation. This is a sad fact. A diehard environmental enthusiast that presents an idea of how to live more simply is often ignored as a fanatic. The sustaining of the environment has a bad reputation, especially with Christians. Yet God gave the earth to us, and we need to treat it responsibly.

Crystle Numan's colloquium was a commendable presentation. It is disturbing that such facts, data and insights were not made known to the general body of Redeemer until last Tuesday afternoon. Crystle's presentation sparked attention and awareness on a greater level. The board room was filled with a variety of students, staff, and faculty (and a diverse crowd standing at the back). A main point that stuck out for me was that creational effort is not about rewards by works. Recycling is not an escape to consumerism; it is not even a great alternative. The only alternative is to live simply, and live a life according to the way Christ would in our society. The statues of the Lord are trustworthy; he makes wise the simple (Psalm 19:7). Remember, apathy is cancerous, reform means change. Crystle's colloquial began in the only possible place, with discussion, a trend that will hopefully continue. C

"healer" from page 1

of serving myself were numerous and will take a lifetime to overcome.

The pain will lessen because God comforts me, but there will continually be reminders everywhere. Something as little as seeing "baby's first shoes" at a shoe store can trigger emotions that are extremely painful. I grieve when I see other children and I wonder about my child. Would it have been a girl or a boy? What would he/she have looked like? There are so many questions, but so few answers.

To make the healing process more difficult, my relationship with my boyfriend did not last, leaving me alone with this burden. Another truth I began to realize was that there are several victims of abortion that reach beyond the child and the mother. It stretches to the would have been grand-parents and to those around you. The pain goes deeper than just the surface. It will affect everyone that is close to you because it alters your entire being in terms of your values and who you are as a person.

After an entire year, God has allowed the healing process to begin. He called me back to Him. Through the intervention of a Christian Counsellor, and those with whom I have shared my secret, my eyes have been opened to the power of God's love, peace, grace, and most of all forgiveness. He truly has been my rock in times of trouble. Jesus died and was crucified on the cross for this specific sin.

I know that I am forgiven and made pure before God because of the shed blood of Jesus Christ my Saviour. I believe this with all of my heart, soul, mind, and strength. God loves me, and He wants only the best for me and He can and will work this to His glory. It saddens me to know that it took something as drastic as having an abortion for God to get all of my attention.

Romans 8:28 *"And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to His purpose."*

Jeremiah 29:11-14 *"For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future. Then you will call upon me and come and pray to me, and I will listen to you. You will seek me and find me when you seek me with all your heart."*

Perhaps you can identify with me in whole or in part. Abortion is very real and prevalent among Christians. We need to share our burdens with others in the hope that someone will be touched and lives turned around because of our story. We need to offer words of encouragement to those around us because we never know what they could be struggling with.

On the other hand, we need to realize that although our circumstances are devastating and may be different, God will use them to glorify His purpose. Having come to a place where I see my sin through God's eyes, I have learned how important it is to rely solely on God. Our friends on earth may fail and leave us, but God, He is always there, even in the whisperings of the wind. He has so much to offer us. True joy, love, peace, and grace come from our Father.

It is my prayer that each and everyone of you, will look at your lives and ask yourself, How well do I really know my God? Is He calling to you? Answer Him. Get on your knees and pray for only there will you find God.

You see, at just the right time, when we were still powerless, Christ died for the ungodly. Very rarely will anyone die for a righteous man, though for a good man someone might possibly die. But God demonstrates His own love for us in this; while we were still sinners, Christ died for us."

Love in Christ, Anonymous

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Back To The Future

by shane pennells

"The purpose of life is a life of purpose."
--Robert Byrne

Well, here we are: the final Crown for the year and what a year it was. From the opening week to the final exams, there has never been a dull moment; the FROG Olympics, the mud pool, the infamous Star Wars light saber battle at Coffeehouse. I've had a great seven months here.

Throughout all the fun times (like playing Gotcha!) I've learned a lot. For instance, did you know that you can say "post-modernity" 15 times in one sentence?

During the year, it has frequently been said that "the truth will set you free". I believe it. Especially when it comes to money. I realized that the tuition cost was truly high when most of the money I had immediately left my wallet. But, through God's grace, I was able to pay this place off. It proved to me that God will never let me down.

I also learned that there are still people in the world that really care. People who will keep the faith in the worst times because life will get better.

I get jaded and downhearted sometimes as life get too fast and furious. Yet, when I look around and see people so totally into God, that the world can crumble around them and they will feel safe because they are in God's great and protective care.

In this modern (or is it postmodern?) world, we are surrounded by a generation growing up that has no idea where they are going or what they are supposed to do. A generation that only believes in the stylish car, the newest electronics, the hippest clothes and the hottest music. A generation without a purpose.

Yet, I come here and I see people with a purpose. I see friends I'll have for the rest of my life. Friends who will support my dreams, help me reach goals, pick me up when I fall, and keep my ego in check. People whom I can honestly call friends.

I realize that this may be the last time some of you hear from me. If so, then I pray that God enriches you and works through you so that you can achieve the pure goals He has for you. And for those of you who are coming back, I pray that God will keep you safe through the summer and that He will work through you for His good.

You may not know where you are going, but as long as you trust in God, you'll always end up where your supposed to be.

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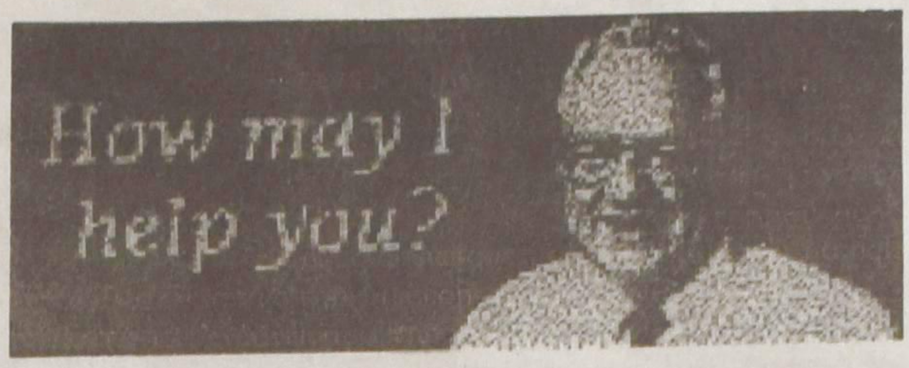
dave thomas to the rescue



joe haveman

My housemate, Nathan Walraven, and I were to leave in three days for our Christmas holidays. It was a December afternoon, and we could think of no better idea than to stop at the Meadowlands and grab a few junior burgers. (Junior burgers are the only fast food I ever eat.)

Wendy's was certainly in the mood for the holiday season. Green decorations were strung throughout the restaurant, and the employees even had Christmas hats on. How festive they were. I was filled with such immeasurable joy that I can not fully describe it.

It seems that we weren't the only ones celebrating a Christmas dinner at Wendy's. The store seem filled with the sort of people I imagined would come from my hometown of Madoc, Ontario. Those dining were not characteristic of the affluent residents of Ancaster. They reminded me of the woods people of Millbridge who cut trees, hunt, and come to Madoc only to restock their beer supply (once every two or three days).

One family barked loudly as their six or seven kids were running about causing havoc in their rubber boots eating french fries like slobby little monsters. Another plaid clad couple created a mess that my mother would have called the aftermath of a tornado. The restaurant was a bubbling hive of redneck Christmas. I sat and studied their behavior, as any socially aware genius would do.

Oh yes, I do believe I am a genius, of the highest caliber of genius. I am reminded of what Stephen Leacock said about his birth, "I am not aware that there was conjunction of the planets at the time, but should think it extremely likely."

I was simply doing what geniuses do in watching people with this hope: that I might see something incredible so that I may one day use it as a story or article.

I will describe the events in the order that they transpired. (That is how a genius writes you know!) First, Nathan's personal ketchup supply ran low. I offered to find him some more, because apart from being a genius, I am also a nice guy. I arrived at the counter and found that all the little plastic tubs of ketchup were gone. I approached the Wendy's workers and asked for ketchup.

The Wendy's worker was very apologetic and started filling the little plastic ketchup tubs. I was not the only person in the predicament of having no ketchup. Soon every incoherent redneck in the place was behind me demanding ketchup loudly. There were at least fifteen of them.

Behind the counter, Wendy's employees scurried to fill as many tubs as possible, as the needy public cried out. What grave injustice they faced! They came for a classy meal, and found no ketchup. I wasn't sure if I pitied the Wendy's workers, the strange breed demanding ketchup, or myself for being a part of this ordeal. In the end I decided that I pitied Nathan because he couldn't fully see this unusual orchestration.

The employees quickly threw all the filled plastic tubs in a big bowl, then passed the it forward with a teamwork I did not know was possible. Wearing their Christmas garb, they began to hand out the ketchup containers. They gave generously; some people received two or three!

"Merry Christmas,"one person said with a large crooked toothed smile, much like my own. (I do come from Madoc so I share some of the populous's physical attributes!)

"Ketchup for you,"the Wendy's girl gleamed.

Everyone was happy and thankful. The employees felt good about solving the crisis, and the diners were happy to have their condiments (which I personally am too much of a genius to use). I sat back down across from Nathan roughly five minutes later and gave him his ketchup.

I sat there quietly for a second in light of those wild events thinking about how to deal with the insanity of modern life.

"Nathan," I said, "I think Wendy's just saved Christmas."

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Revue Sketches

by mark vandooren

Redeemer College's Theatre Arts Department has always prided itself in its continual attempt to broaden the scope for actors and audience alike. *Revue Sketches* was a true example of this exercise as a collection of ten short vignettes. As we watched these separate skits, we were introduced to general themes.

The director, Joe Abbey-Colborne, must be commended for the flow of the play, which must have been difficult . He led the actors through some unusual exercises to teach them how to be nameless entities (volunteering at a downtown soup kitchen being one example).

The prevailing theme of the play has to do with the normalcy of the characters. For the most part, the characters are powerless figures as they have no real knowledge to share. When a small tidbit of small talk makes it to their tongues, it is painfully relished and reiterated. If all you can talk about - for five minutes or so - is that you sold your last newspaper, you obviously want or need to have more in your life. Oddly enough, the continuation of weak words is interrupted in the sketch called 'Dialogue for Three'. Here, the characters are borderline poetic, as is the theme of perfect and instant love.

The play is difficult to perform, and also difficult to watch. The movement is very minimal, and large blocks of dead air can only make the audience uncomfortable. Though this is necessary for the message of the play, it certainly turned off many of the spectators. As well, the many variances on the English accent coming from the actors does little to help the stories, but rather hamped.

All in all, *Revue Sketches* was an excellent piece, and was a growing step for Redeemer theatre. But the entertainment necessities of any play must not be forgotten in the name of art: they are equal parts, despite what most folk will tell you. I hope the theatre department continues producing new types of experiences, because I want to share in all of them.

"For The Pleasure of Seeing Her Again"

review by jen mcnaughton

Cheryl Hassell is a graduating theatre student who has recently completed her most momentous project at Redeemer College: the notorious "advanced study in acting." This course is often recognized as the definitive performance of a theatre major: it is invested with endless hours of rehearsing, rehashing, and rethinking. Not only must the piece be chosen with practicality in mind - the precious resources of the Theatre Department are already stretched beyond graceful limits - but the need for a personal, intimate connection with the script is also vital. Cheryl Hassell treasures her family, and chose a play about the worn but steady love between a mother and her and son .

For the Pleasure of Seeing Her Again is the newest play by one of Canada's leading and most loved playwrights, Michel Tremblay. It is in several respects Tremblay's signature piece - not only because of the familiar setting of working class Montreal, or the recognizable characters - but because the play is a tribute to Tremblay's own mother, who died before he had achieved widespread literary acclaim.

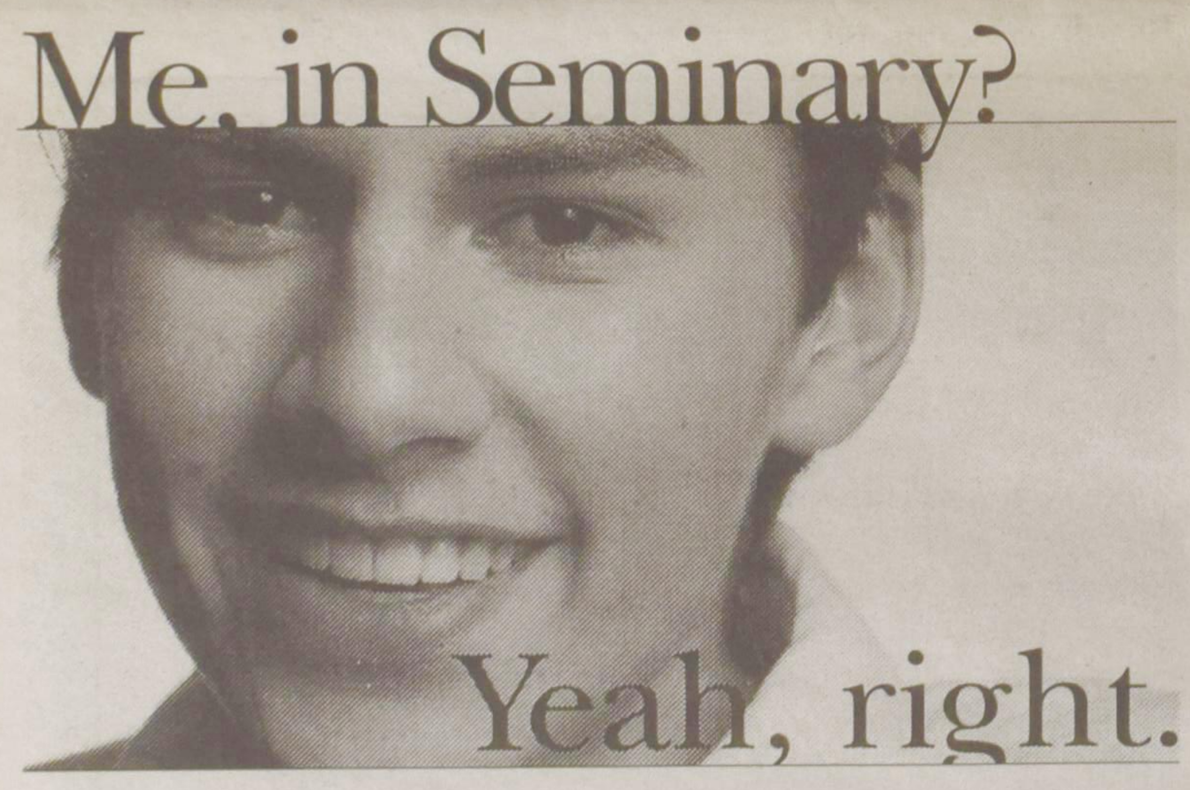
This daunting piece seemed even more inaccessible for Cheryl because Michel Tremblay's agent would not grant performance rights to an amateur. However, she decided to go ahead with the show - and on March ninth through eleventh, the play was performed unofficially, without publicity or ticket payment, in the studio theatre. The result was an honest, unassuming production that was moving in its simplicity and vulnerability.

The performances of both Cheryl Hassell and Brett Dewing are to be commended. Brett invested a good energy into the role of the narrator, a son who lingers in the memories of his colourful mother. His few lines were delivered with integrity; but the real strength of his performance lay in an excellent focus. His silences quietly nurtured the audience's attention to Nana, the woman to whom his character was paying tribute.

Cheryl played a woman who is bold, opinionated and often overbearing - a far cry from the actor herself. Cheryl will attest that this character proved to be a great challenge for her: not only because of Nana's extreme personality but also because of the depth of her life experience and situation.

The performance was invested with all the passion that Cheryl had, and as a result she was able to clear several personal hurdles in the process, reaching new levels of understanding. I would not say that the character was exhaustively and definitively represented - (can that ever be said of a performance?) but rather that there was an evident, authentic respect for this woman, and a desire to honour the memory of her love for her family.

Often we are inadequate to express our deepest emotions, and can only brokenly relate our most significant experiences. *For the Pleasure of Seeing Her Again* was a delicate portrayal of a frail but real relationship, infused with the passion and vigor of youth. Perhaps some day after several years of theatre and life, Cheryl will return to the veteran Nana; and with the grace of age pay her tribute to family once again.



You can still hardly believe it. Why would God call you into ministry? It really never crossed your mind until recently. Can this be right?

It might seem awkward at first, but through prayer, confiding honestly with people who are closest to you, and taking small steps of faith, God will be there for you and he will guide you through the decision-making process.

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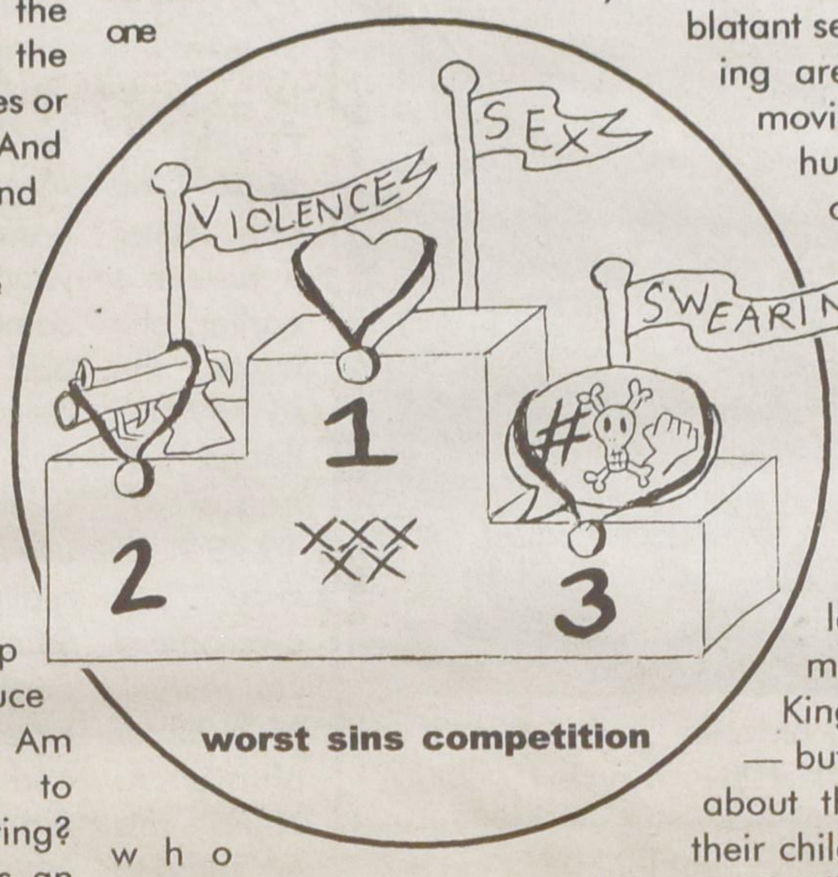
"IS IT TIME TO CENSOR THE BIBLE?"

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

four hundred Philistine foreskins, Joab's murder of Abner, the beheadings, the stonings, the tent pegs through the head, the hanging of decapitated bodies or bodiless heads on walls. And let's not forget the torture and murder of Jesus Christ.

The Bible is probably the world's greatest record of human depravity and sin, but according to some interpretations of Phil. 4: 8, we should not think about these things. If this interpretation were true, then we'd either have to stop reading the Bible, or produce some rosy censored version. Am I comparing the Bible to contemporary film and writing? No, obviously the Bible has an overarching, divinely-inspired message which is completely unique. But I would argue that, seeing the Bible as a whole, we cannot logically suggest that we are not to think about anything evil. The text does not say we are *only* to think about virtuous things. If we interpret "think" here to mean "meditate" instead of "cognate" it makes much more sense. My second point is that I see a problem with the way we tend to pick out sex, violence, and swearing as the gold, silver, and bronze medalists in the worst sins competition. I've never heard of anyone who walked out of a movie because a character was bearing false witness, or dishonouring his or her parents, or coveting, or not keeping the Sabbath. And the fact is that if we were to refuse to watch or read anything with sin in it, we'd have to take a roll of duct tape and wrap it around our heads, being sure to cover all holes. But then we'd die.

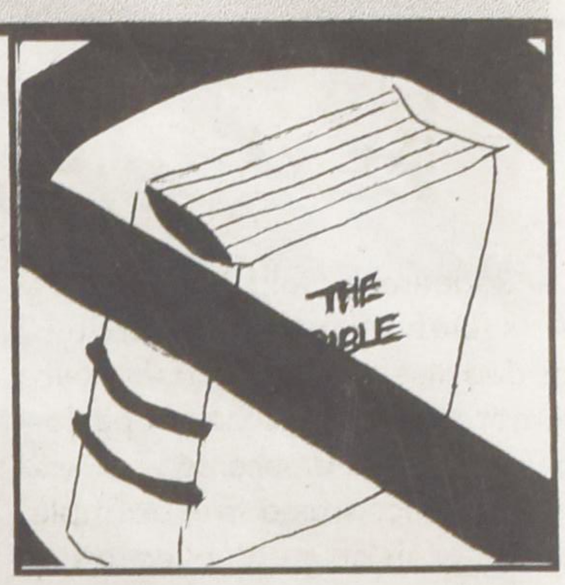


worst sins competition

The point is, just as it's illogical to refuse to deal with coveting or gossiping, it's also illogical to refuse to deal with sex, violence, and swearing. We cannot have a double-standard on this issue.

I think that movies with blatant sex, violence, and swearing are less dangerous than movies with subtle atheistic, humanistic, individualistic or materialistic themes. It's much easier to identify the wrongness of unfaithfulness and murder and cursing, than it is to see the hidden messages and agendas behind many movies. People happily let their kids watch movies like "The Lion King" because it's Disney — but they forget about the new age messages their children are absorbing.

Thirdly, at the panel discussion, someone made the point that it's okay to watch graphic movies if you're watching them academically, but if you're watching for entertainment, it's best to stick with "good movies." This disturbs me, for as stated



above, no secular movie will be free of secular influence. If you think you've got a nice clean movie you can watch without worrying or thinking, think again. It is never a good idea to sit down and say, "okay, now I'm going to stop being critical and discerning, and just be a vegetable."

Thinking is not going to wipe you out. But the critical functions must be exercised in order to remain at optimal effectiveness. Think of it as running — if you do it all the time, you build up your endurance and your enjoyment. But if you do it sporadically or rarely, it'll tire you out, and you'll probably be really slow (this is true, I speak from experience). What I suggest is that we face reality, stop creating hierarchies of sin, and redefine "entertainment" to include thinking.

C

festival of faith & writing
conference 2000

Calvin College's *Festival of Faith and Writing 2000* was a great opportunity for students to get better acquainted the world of writing, publishing, and Film. Speakers included Clyde Edgerton, James McBride, Chaim Potok, Anne Lamott, and Maya Angelou. While many of these writers were unfamiliar to me when I went to the conference, I have since bought several of their books.

The most inspirational speaker for me, and the two other crown reporters who attended the conference — Ang Reitsma and Al Bick, was Anne Lamott. Her description of the writer's life was less than glamourous, but she made the point that one writes for the writing, not for the fame and fortune.

She also said that to be a writer, one must waste time. In fact, she felt that people today, in general, don't waste enough time. Wasting time is part of the creative process. I was glad to hear that — I waste time all the time.

Another much appreciated point which Anne Lamott made was that writing is like pulling teeth — half of the time you're doing it, you'll hate it. Again, I could relate.

Finally, Lamott stated emphatically that all good writing comes out of bad writing. She insisted that all first, second, and third drafts are terrible. This, too, was good to hear. Lamott encouraged the audience to make time every day for writing — not to put it off until you have time, because you never will.

The conference also included numerous workshops in the categories of fiction, non-fiction, publishing, children's literature, and film. There were displays with information on publishing companies, as well as the possibility to talk with editors. Overall, it was a great opportunity. If you're interested in writing, keep your eyes open for the next conference in 2002.

C

Maya Angelou, author of "I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings."

Anne Lamott, author of "Traveling Mercies."

a testimony to God's Power

by Ken Dryfhout

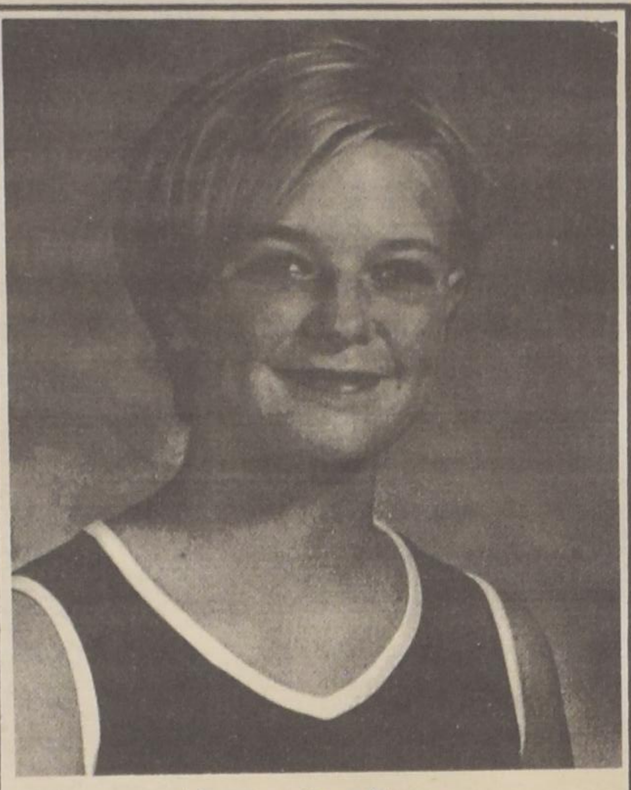
At 1:30 pm on March 10 of the year 2000 Alana Joyce Dryfhout and James Marcel Filiatrault were taken to be with their Lord. When I was told that my little sister and her boyfriend had been killed in a car accident, shock does not begin to describe what I felt in the midst of a reality that I still cannot fully believe. I was swept to a place where all my reason can not fathom what it means that I will never see my sister again in this life time. I still remain in that place.

However, healing began immediately. I had the comfort of knowing where they both were, and there was joy in that right from the beginning. My tears are shed in sorrow for myself and those who miss them desperately, but also in joy for them. They are in the very presence of God.

God prepares His people. He prepared Alana, He prepared James, and even though it was hard to believe, He prepared us as well. Alana was a strong, vibrant, passionate Christian woman. At the age of eighteen she had already been used as a vessel by the Spirit to gather some into the family of God. She had a joy that radiated Christ.

My sister Alana's tale in not one about a perfect life. But in her reality lay a testimony to the power of God, to the way He works in such powerful, wonderful ways. Alana was an ordinary girl with struggles, burdens, temptation, and trials. However, by laying it all down before God, He has made her story extraordinary. He brought Alana to the place where she was ready for her homecoming. I have been an amazing, up-close witness to the power of God in the journey of my sister through the trials and temptations of this world. It is this witness to God's power that leaves behind something to hold onto, something which brings joy in the midst of pain; His transforming power, His preparation, and His promise that He is in control and works even the most desperate situations to the good of His purposes for His people.

Alana struggled with many things as all people do. She had her time with smoking, drinking, drugs. She had a profound love for her friends, which at times conflicted with her passion for God. But in May 1997, Alana recommitted her life to Christ, though this wasn't the end of the struggling. Her trials continued into March of 1999.



Alana Dryfhout
Oct. 1, 1981 - March 10, 2000

Alana was diagnosed with Lupus disease, which affected her vocal cords, blood and joints. She was also finding herself having difficulty standing firm on the gospel in social settings. But she had a great strength in Christ; she loved the Lord and knew that something great was going to happen to claim new freedom in her life. I believe this happened at a youth group retreat in March 1999. The Spirit fell on her in power, as well as the whole youth group. From that moment everything changed. Alana experienced manifestations of the Spirit, one of which was the ability to see angels. She became a warrior in prayer, encouraging and building up others in the faith. The Lord provided her with a Christian boyfriend, James, who was a profound blessing in her life. God brought new victories in her social life as well. God had done much in Alana already: He had used her to lead people to Him, He had made her a powerful worship leader (which she demonstrated at the 1999 All Ontario Convention), but this was a true moment where new freedom poured into my sister's life. She continued to have many difficult times with her Lupus; she often felt drained and cried. Yet, she was so strong, a powerful tool for God.

Last August Alana began a journal. Feeling far from God only three years earlier, she wrote the following things:

August 7, 1999 - *God is awesome. I can't think of a better phrase to begin this journal. God is all around me in creation, in my friends, in my life and I can see his works every day. He always amazes me with the beauty of His creation and yet sometimes I feel so unpretty. I have to take hold of the truths though that God has made all things beautiful. Also, the truth that He never leaves my side. When I'm in pain or crying He is right there! He died so that I may live and even if he chooses not to heal me on this earth I will live pain free and healthy up in heaven. I will praise the Lord because He has saved me. I've been through some rough times but God's love has always shone through. It's amazing how He works.*

August 9, 1999 - *...I pray that I can press on towards the goal and live for Jesus while I am on this earth... It's strange how some days seem so meaningless. Get up-go to work-go to sleep. I guess we need to make the most out of life - the most out of each day. Shine the light of Christ to everyone who passes me. I pray that God will use me in His great plans, that people will see something different in me. I'm not perfect but forgiven with hope for the future. (Ps. 139, Phil. 3:12)*

August 19, 1999 - *"All the days ordained for me were written in your book before one of them came to be". Even days that are bad - God is with me every second working His plans out and helping me. I pray that I will be more careful with each day - use it well. I heard something really cool in church yesterday. "It's availability not ability"*

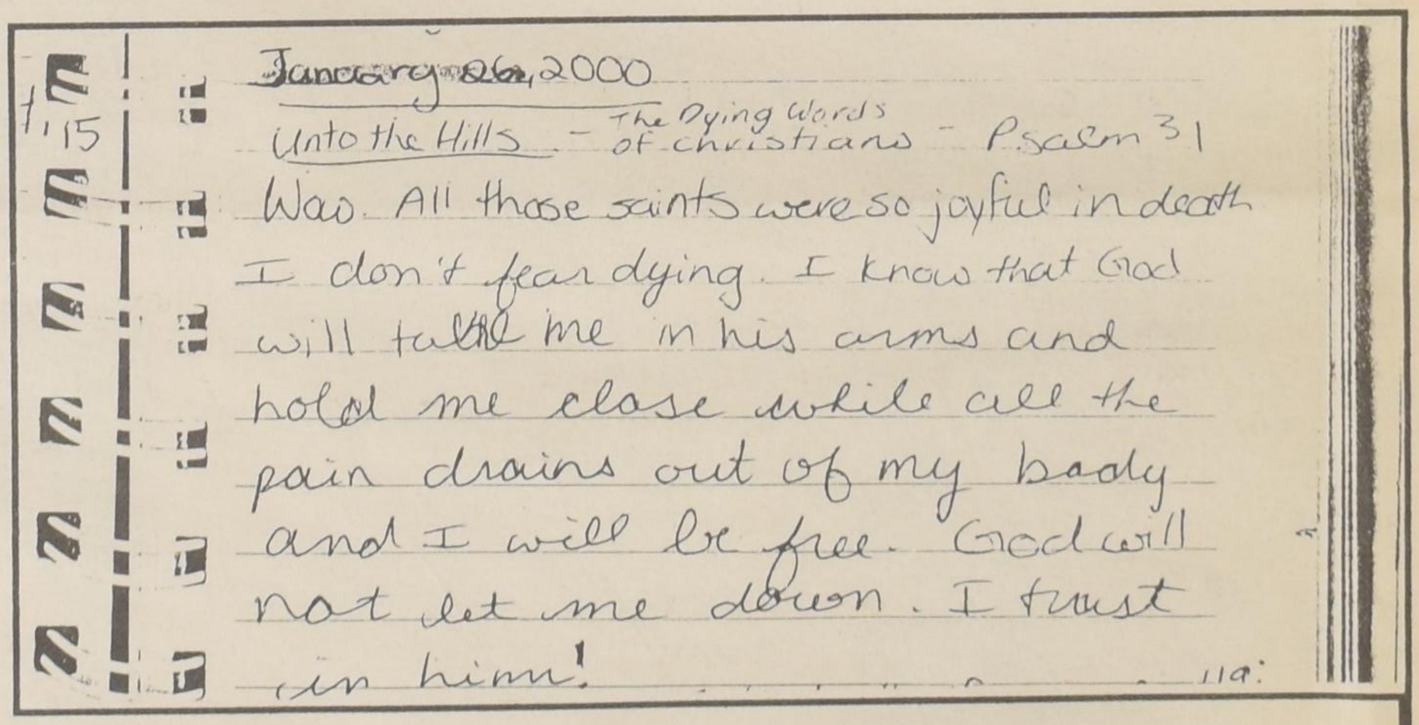
September 25, 1999 *(Youth retreat) - I have big plans for you and James together. You'll have fun with me, there will be more laughing than you have ever had crying.*

January 3, 2000 - *God has a plan for me. Right now, I have no idea what it is. One day he'll explain everything. Everything is happening for a purpose.*

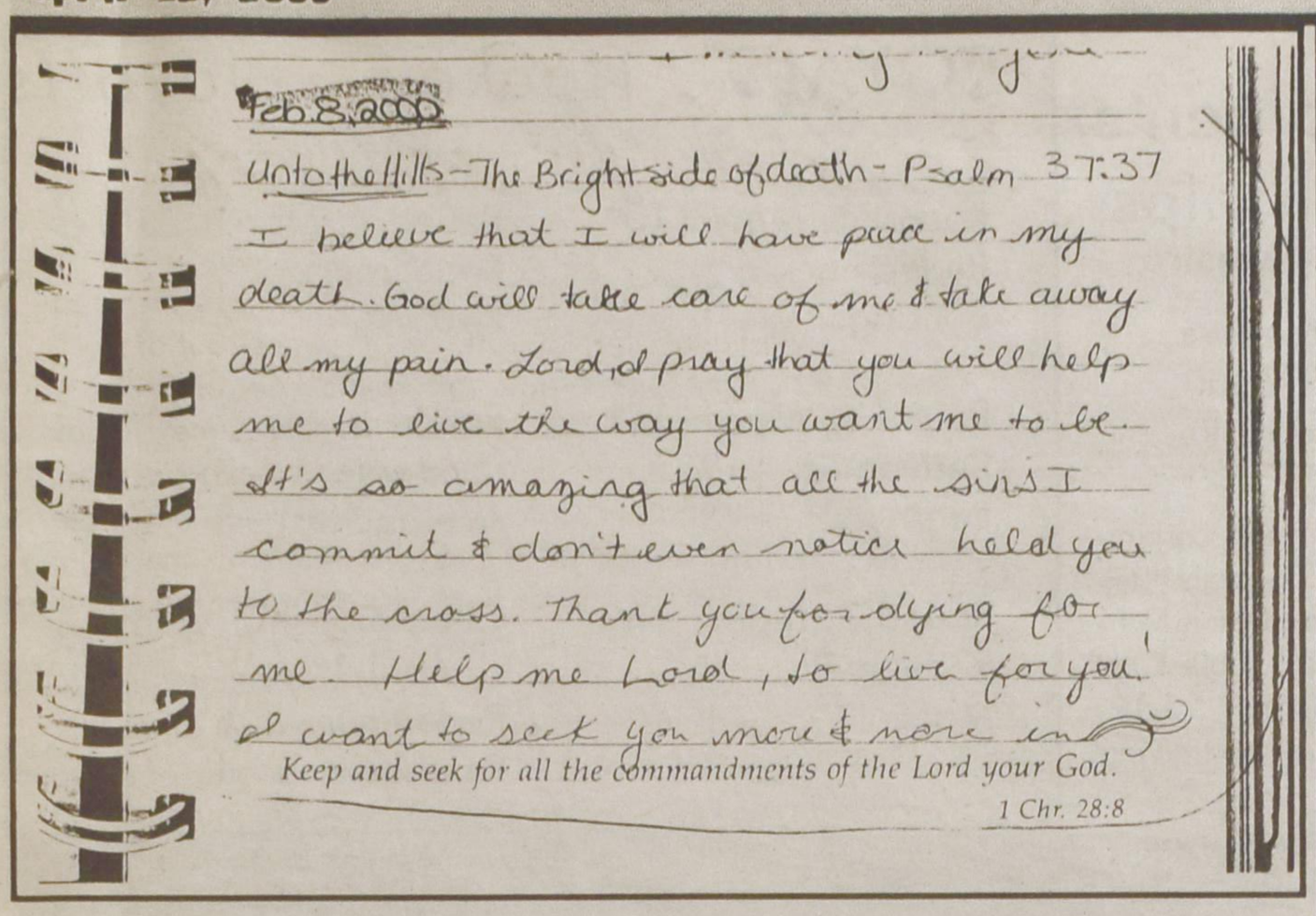
January 8, 2000 - *Life definitely hard sometimes. It is easy to fall away from God in times of struggles but I know I need Him and I long to get closer to Him each day. I definitely need peace to get through the stressful times and the times when I don't know what will happen. I worry about many things but I pray that I will TRUST IN THE LORD FOREVER!*

January 14, 2000 - *I can't wait for a season of joy. With my sickness and stress I've been crying so much and am very upset. Lord, in your time and will, please bless me with joy.*

January 17, 2000 - *We should live everyday as if it might be our last. We might*



January 26, 2000
Unto the Hills - The Dying Words of Christians - Psalm 31
Wow. All those saints were so joyful in death. I don't fear dying. I know that God will take me in his arms and hold me close while all the pain drains out of my body and I will be free. God will not let me down. I trust in him!



meet God face to face. God will prepare us for eternity but we also have to work him on earth.

January 18, 2000 - *The Lord is so mighty and powerful. He hears my every cry. He sends His angels to watch out for me. Lord, thank you for being so faithful. You are always there for me. I know you hear me when I cry (which is a lot). You are so awesome.*

January 19, 2000 - *I can't wait for the day when I can see Jesus. I hope that I can be a good servant for him here on earth though.*

January 25, 2000 - *God has to prepare all His servants before He can use them for His will. I am in a time of preparation and waiting. BUT... GOD'S TIMING IS ALWAYS PERFECT!!! How reassuring. People have prayed for me and I know that God already has the date picked out for my healing. And what an awesome day it will be...I commit myself to God.*

January 31, 2000 - *God gives hope. By His strength and power we can overcome all things. There is no reason to despair. God will always take care of us. A testimony will blossom. Through tragedies God's glory and message will shine!*

February 4, 2000 - *God gave me a vision of my gaining strength and my muscles and my joints strengthening... I saw a white covering around me to keep me safe and I was raised up on eagle wings. God is awesome!*

February 21, 2000 - *Thank you Lord that you conquer all. You will conquer my sin and my sickness. Help me to stand when I want to fall.*

March 6, 2000 - *Lord, thank you for the home in heaven that you have prepared. I pray that you will forgive my sins and one day meet me face to face. Thank you Lord.*

March 7, 2000 - *Lord, I thank you for the amazing gift of being able to see and sense you angels. I pray that you will increase this and use this gift more... Lord, help me submit to your control... Fill me with your Holy Spirit and help me to lean on you to control my life and everything I do.*

Wow, God is good! Alana knew it! She did not expect to die. She had plans for the future. She was only 18 years old. God hates the fact that my sister died at the age of 18, He hates the fact James is gone at 22. However, God takes it all and uses in such a way that there is nothing for the enemy to hold onto. People came to know Christ in our church the Sunday after the accident, more accepted Jesus into their hearts at the funeral. God will take it and use it. He prepared Alana, unquestionably. He kept His promises; she is healed, she has joy, she is in the midst of His angels and has met her Saviour face to face. We cannot begin to know all the things God accomplished, began to do, and continues to do through this event.

Although I know the truth. I am filled with sadness, I feel empty at times. But, the very truths that comforted Alana in her struggles are now such a witness to us. God is in control, He will not betray us. God is a loving God and I will praise Him in all things. I see the awesome power of God in the witness of Alana's life. It is a power that drives people to want what Alana had. She struggled, she hurt, but she loved the Lord and had faith and trusted in Him. I can learn from Alana; I look up to the sister who always looked up to me.

Alana's life was in God's hands. She had struggles; she yearned for holiness; she was like any of us. But she trusted Him with her life and He made her story a testifying light to His power. The Lord has so much to give us. He has gifts and power which make our attachment to this world grow so dim. The Lord wants to bring new freedom to all of us. He wants to shake our whole way of thinking and living so we may shine to every person we meet, every person we pass. Our lives may be a witness, a light to His glory and honour. Put your life in His hands, and let Him transform it.

c

SINGLE AND SANE IN A COUPLED SOCIETY

shamalla

It was one of those perfect days; the sun was out and we had overdosed on shouting, food and laughter. The 'quoro' was now sitting peacefully, albiet quietly, in a restaurant. It had been so long since we had all been together. We had all scattered in the pursuit of different degees and goals and I was looking forward to hearing the different stories we each had.

Finally, we settled down to talk. But before 5 minutes had gone by, in came the big question: "Who are you seeing?" I was surprised that I was the only one who's rib had not been placed but that didn't bother me. I just wanted to hear those stories. Unfortunately, "who met who & how", "cute habits", and "sweet surprises" took over our evening.

Being single is portrayed as a painless but inconvenient disability.

Don't get me wrong, I was happy that everyone had met 'the one' but the whole evening?

Everything I had to say after those first 5 minutes didn't seem to be quite as interesting what they had to say. By the end of the evening I was thinking: "Hey! Not to be selfish or anything but how come nobody's so hysterically happy for 'single' me attending classes regularly, going to church every Sunday, and working part-time?"

Every single person will agree, it's tough being single and sane in a 'coupled' society. It's even cheaper to buy two of most things than it is to buy one! Being single is portrayed as a painless but inconvenient disability. You are reminded of this at every family gathering, every party, every walk, and every evening that you are a 'single'.

Most people agree that you can't control the dating process, but then act as if you were the one at fault, that you are deliberately refusing to go out there and shout YES to any proposal made by anyone. Relationships are made to be the all-in-all, and married life the only reason for existence. I have met people who think their lives amount to little because at 20 they are not in a relationship.

I believe that relationships and marriage are a wonderful part of God's creation but they are not the ultimate reason for life. The apostle Paul was never married and no one can say that he didn't have a rich and full life in God. I believe this is what he had in mind when he encouraged young people to be single. He was not against marriage but rather encouraged people to see their present state as an incredible opportunity to serve God.

You don't need anyone to make you complete. If you don't find yourself complete in God, no mortal can fill that void. For some of us the best years and opportunities of our lives are rubbing us hard as they pass us by, while we hang around waiting for the right person so our lives can begin.

A watched pot never boils, but God is watching this pot and it's doing just fine. Your help is not needed here but elsewhere. There is quite a bit to be done. Give a helping hand, smile, love, listen, play a little, talk, laugh and take your time. You might make your best memory today.

c

OCCAA Men's and Women's Club Volleyball Championships

by christine westra

Congratulations to both our men's and women's teams for bringing home medals in the 1999-2000 OCCAA Volleyball Championships, held here at Redeemer College, February 11 & 12.

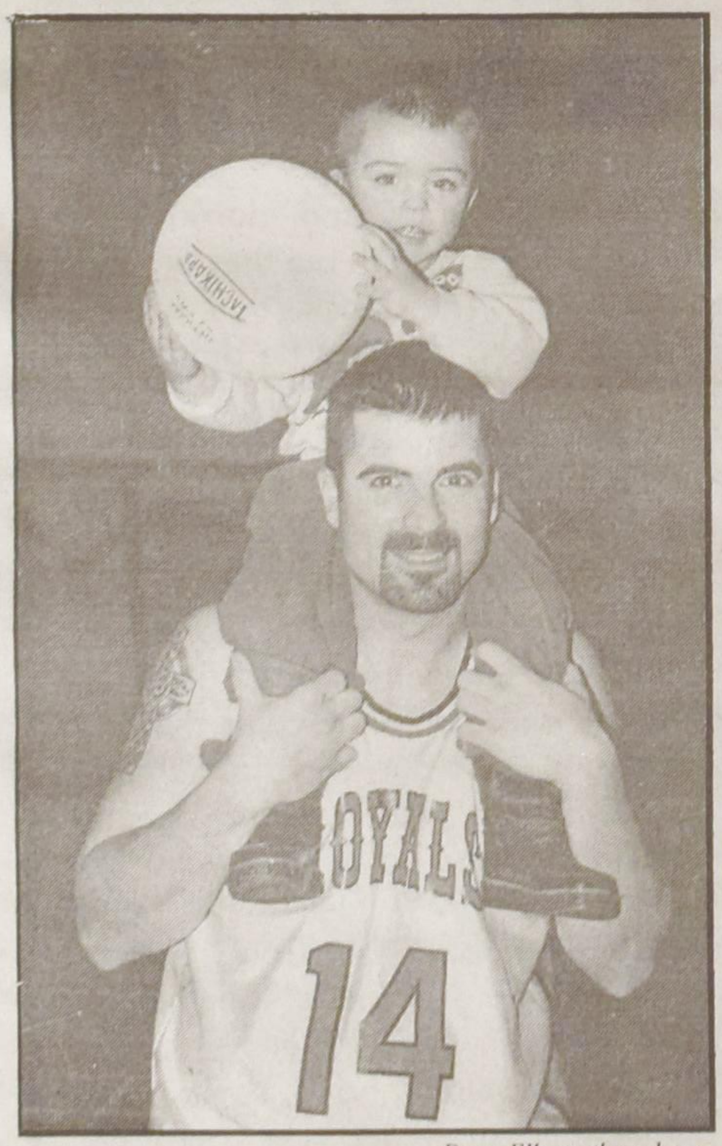
The Women's club team had an all around strong year, coming into the tournament with a 16-0 record. In the semi-finals they defeated Tyndale Bible College strongly in three games straight to qualify for the finals where they faced Heritage Baptist Bible College. The first two games were dominated by Redeemer; 25-12, and 25-19, the third saw Heritage rising to the occasion and giving it there all! Both teams were at peak performance, neither willing to admit defeat. Since league rules declare that the match must be won by at least two points and neither team was willing to give up that lead, the scores crept quite high. The final score after a well fought match for both teams was 36 – 34 for Redeemer. They were able to successfully end their season undefeated and take home the gold for the second year in a row.Special congratulations also goes out to Amanda DeVries, who was chosen as the Female MVP for the Tournament.

The Men's club team entered the tournament in fourth place, and as the underdogs. Their first game was facing Tyndale Bible College, the first place team coming into the tournament. They fought well but were unable to defeat Tyndale. This placed them in the Bronze medal match, facing Eastern Pentecostal Bible College where they proceeded to fight for what they wanted and succeed! The final scores were; 25-23, 18-25, 25-23, 25-19. They were able to proudly wear the bronze medal home that night.

ROYALS VOLLEYBALL ALL-STARS

Brad Heidbuurt
Mike Baker
Michelle VanBerkel

Colin DeRaaf was named West Region All-Star. Congratulations to all of these fine athletes!



Dave Ellsworth and son.

ROYALS Hockey Playoffs

Round 1, March 10th
Redeemer: 5
Bulldogs: 1

Round 2, March 17th
Redeemer: 2
Panthers: 3

Round 3, March 18th
Redeemer: 2
Maas: 1

Round 4, March 25th
Redeemer: 6
Pirates: 4

Round 5, March 31st
Redeemer: 3
Avalanche: 3

Championship Game, April 1st
Redeemer: 6
Panthers: 4

Women's varsity volleyball team.

Mens's varsity volleyball team.

NCHL HOCKEY *LEAGUE AWARDS*

The Redeemer Royals posted a phenomenal season this year with the help of recognized players Randy Lodder and Ben Maas. Randy Lodder, the starting goaltender, won the Best Goals Against Average Award for the 1999-2000 season. Lodder has also been recognized as the male athlete of the month for March. Ben Maas had the remarkable distinction of being named League MVP. These awards are a credit to the players, team, and to the University itself.

ATHLETES OF THE MONTH

March, Natasha Brodie, and Randy Lodder.

Natasha Brodie was the net minder for the Redeemer Royals Indoor Soccer Team. She was labeled as one of the top two goalies in the indoor soccer tournament held at Redeemer College. As well as being a strong player in the net, she is also known for her strong offensive presence on the court as a forward.

Randy Lodder carried the Redeemer Royals to a hockey championship in the NCHL. Lodder took over the goal tending job this year to replace the old Redeemer goalie, Jacob DeBoer. Randy took hockey from the pond and applied it to the Royals games. In doing so he held a record of 18-3-1 in 19 games. He was 4-0 in the playoffs.

For OCAA Updates Checkout www.ocaa.com

two panel discussions on "How far is too far?"

Sexuality on the Internet and in Relationships

by maggie vandermeer

On Monday, March 20, Student Life held a panel discussion on the topic of "How far is too far on the internet and in film?" Panel members included Jamie Hofing, Julie Harvey, and Dr. Wayne Norman, with Graham Cubitt as moderator.

First to speak was Jamie Hofing who pointed out some inconsistencies in the way Christians normally deal with the issue of pornography. He pointed out that pornography is often placed at the top of the hierarchy of sin because it is associated with words like "addiction" and "craving". However, while smoking and drinking also involve cravings and addictions, they are considered much more acceptable by many Christians. Jamie also pointed out that many boys are exposed to pornography at a young age. He called for some kind of secondary source on what it means to be sexual from a creational point of view. Jamie also identified a distinction between a voyeuristic and artistic approach to nudity. He suggested that some people view pornography for much the same reason as one might flip through an art history book — to appreciate the beauty of the human body. Jamie also applied this distinction between art and voyeurism to film. However, he also made the point that "how far is too far" depends very much on the individual person.

The next panel member to speak was Julie Harvey. Julie looked at three themes: 1)Our thinking, 2)Our calling, 3)Our responsibility. Julie argued that what we think determines our actions. Therefore, movies with violence, sex, and swearing harden our hearts to these things. For this reason, Julie urged us to guard our hearts, and not conform to the world. Secondly, Julie stated that our calling is to fill ourselves with good things so that we can produce the fruits of the Spirit. And our responsibility, according to Julie, is to evangelize. She pointed to 2 Cor. 3:3, "You show that you are a letter from Christ, the result of our ministry, written not with ink but with the Spirit of the living God, not on tablets of stone but on tablets of human hearts." Julie left us with the question, "What does your letter say? Is it a letter from Christ or from the world?"

Dr. Norman dealt mainly with pornography on the internet. He argued that the internet is different because it offers anonymity, physical distance between the viewer and the individual, and a lack of accountability. While Dr. Norman recognized that some argue for the benefits of soft porn on the internet for the benefit of education, and as an outlet for exploration or dealing with a sexual dysfunction, he also listed many perceived detriments. These detriments include the objectification of women, reduced enthusiasm for real-life sex, negative attitudes and aggression to women, child pornography, net sex (which brings up questions of identity and what constitutes infidelity), and cyber-sexual addictions. Dr. Norman suggested that in dealing with addiction to pornography, it's probably best to leave it to someone who knows how to identify the problems. He warned that pornography will change your view of sex, your sexuality, and the way you view your future sexual partner.

Three suggestions for dealing with addiction to pornography were made over the course of the night: 1)confessing sins to a friend or accountability partner, 2)changing the structure of your life so that you don't put yourself in tempting situations, and 3)seeking professional help. Several people, both on the panel and in the audience, urged us as a Christian community to help those who are dealing with an addiction to pornography by showing love and support, not judgement. We were reminded that we are all sinful, and have no right to look down on others because we think their sins are worse than ours.

While the panel discussion did not come up with any definitive answers to the question of "how far is too far?", it was a valuable forum for open discussion on important issues. Besides, in my opinion, the question itself can never be answered with a broad sweeping generalization, but will be different for each person. However, I hope that discussions like this will be ongoing as people continue to struggle with these issues.

by jody moerman and charity farenhorst

"Hi. My name is Emily, and I am a dater." So began the March 20th Open Forum discussion on dating and relationships, the second of the "How far is too far?" series. Three current Redeemer students, one Redeemer graduate, and one Redeemer Professor shared their perspectives on the topic of dating before a tightly packed crowd of eager listeners as they spoke both from personal experience and things they had read or been taught concerning relationships and the "right way" to conduct one.

As the panelists presented their experiences and ideas, one clear theme arose: there is, in fact, NO "right way" to be involved in the dating scene. Rather, there are a number of "wrong ways," and almost as many "right ways" as there are people — everyone seems to have a slightly different situation, causing their own approach to reflect their opinions

and expectations of what a dating relationship actually is. At this point the discussion deteriorated into circular argument regarding the subject of "casual dating" - which no one was willing to actually define.

Being Redeemer students, the danger of falling into "relativism" was quickly recognized by the panelists as well as those who took part in the lively discussion following the opening statements. Jeff Stacey, the self-prolaimed "token male student" on the panel, reminded everyone of the need to look for ways in which biblical principals for godly living can be brought to bear on our cultural and societal norms. Although, there is no formula or step-by-step procedure with guaranteed results every time; each of us is still responsible before God to discern whether our thoughts, actions, and motivations will be honouring to Him and to those around us.

The other panelists echoed this need to define principles rather than rules when considering a dating relationship. Sonia Reid called for a focus on the pursuit of purity and goal of glorifying God rather than pushing the typical question of where to "draw the line." To make these considerations specific, Michelle Bottink suggested using this question as a guideline: "what things, when I am married, will I regret doing, or wish my husband or wife had not done?" In this way, respect for the other person as a child of God can be built; in any relationship, it is crucial to understand our identity and worth in Christ so that our love can reflect His love.

As was hoped Prof. Hugh Cook was able to offer a slightly different perspective - that of a parent. Holding the position that parents should be involved as little as possible in the dating relationships of their children, he nevertheless hoped that the relationship between students and their parents would allow freedom to ask and receive advice. Interestingly, Cook encouraged students to check out their options and not become serious too quickly although he, himself married the only girl he ever dated. On the other hand, a female student who admitted to having been involved in many relationships, expressed regret over her past and encouraged her fellow students to wait.

Although the evening ended with many unanswered questions, the discussion was thought provoking and will hopefully continue as students seeking to honour the Lord in dating relationships.

quotes

randy elzinga

"You see someone with blond hair and you get excited." Jay Veldman on the minority of Dutch people in Canada outside of Reformed circles

"You're calling me a yahoo! Now is that respect?" Dr. Wolters to Greg Bylsma in Greek class

"You need some tongue and lip action." Ray Louter discussing pronunciation in communications class.

"We do the things we have to do, when we have to do them." The old wise Fraggle

"It's one o'clock. If your hips aren't round, you'd best be getting out of here." Shamalla

"The Tittle is commonly referred as the dot upon which the "i" is underneath." Joanna Laberge

"What happens in a power outage? Will we get less channels?" Rhonda Gooding

"I know they do something for me." Ian Cubitt in regards to Barbie accessories

"My mouth works on its own level." Ken Dryfhout

"Anything that's said before 10 in the morning shouldn't be said." Jessica Kralt

"George Bernard Shaw is one of my favorite blasphemers of the 20th century because he makes you laugh." Dr. Van Dyke

During dinner one time, we were having a conversation about lent. The conversation switched topics, without Graham knowing, to a hand gesture in the NFL.

Eric Renkema: "You can get fined $5000 for doing that in the NFL."

Graham Cubitt: "For breaking lent?"

"Let's go to the sex discussion panel. I want to learn about sex panels." John Eccles

"You don't have to put your pants on for me!" Kim Aukema to a mystery man????

"This vacuum needs to be bedroomed" Supposedly this was said by a backpage editor for the Crown (who will remain nameless) but I find that hard to believe.

"It's like 'The Sound of Music' where you have Captain Von Trapp who's trying to run his family like an army. So in comes Julie Andrew who's in tune with the creation order and who knows how things should run." Dr. Wolters

"...running around with a chicken leg... I mean like a chicken leg... I mean like a chicken with its head cut off..." Kirsti Gooda

"...but that's because I'm a liar." Dr. Plantinga, PHL 345

"The Muslims, during Ramadan, may fast during the day, yet eat like pigs at night. What's the point of that? That's like abstaining from sexual intercourse during the day. Who does it during the day anyway?!" Professor Goheen

TRUE LIFE ANNOUNCEMENTS

THAT WILL KEEP YOU OUT OF THOSE FRIENDLY SKIES...

1. From a Southwest Airlines employee.... "Welcome aboard Southwest Flight XXX to YYY. To operate your seatbelt, insert the metal tab into the buckle, and pull tight. It works just like every other seatbelt and if you don't know how to operate one, you probably shouldn't be out in public unsupervised.

In the event of a sudden loss of cabin pressure, oxygen masks will descend from the ceiling. Stop screaming, grab the mask, and pull it over your face. If you have a small child traveling with you, secure your mask before assisting with theirs. If you are traveling with two small children, decide now which one you love more.

2. From a Southwest Airlines employee.... "There may be 50 ways to leave your lover, but there are only 4 ways out of this airplane..."

3. Pilot - "Folks, we have reached our cruising altitude now, so I am going to switch the seat belt sign off. Feel free to move about as you wish, but please stay inside the plane till we land...it's a bit cold outside, and if you walk on the wings it affects the flight pattern."

5. Another flight Attendant's comment on a less than perfect landing: "We ask you to please remain seated as Captain Kangaroo bounces us to the terminal."

6. After a real crusher of a landing in Phoenix, the Flight Attendant came on with, "Ladies and Gentlemen, please remain in your seats until Captain Crash and the Crew have brought the aircraft to a screeching halt up against the gate. And, once the tire smoke has cleared and the warning bells are silenced, we'll open the door and you can pick your way through the wreckage to the terminal.

The Music Director

contributed by david smelsner

There was a church where the preacher and the minster of music were not getting along. As time went by this began to spill over into the worship service.

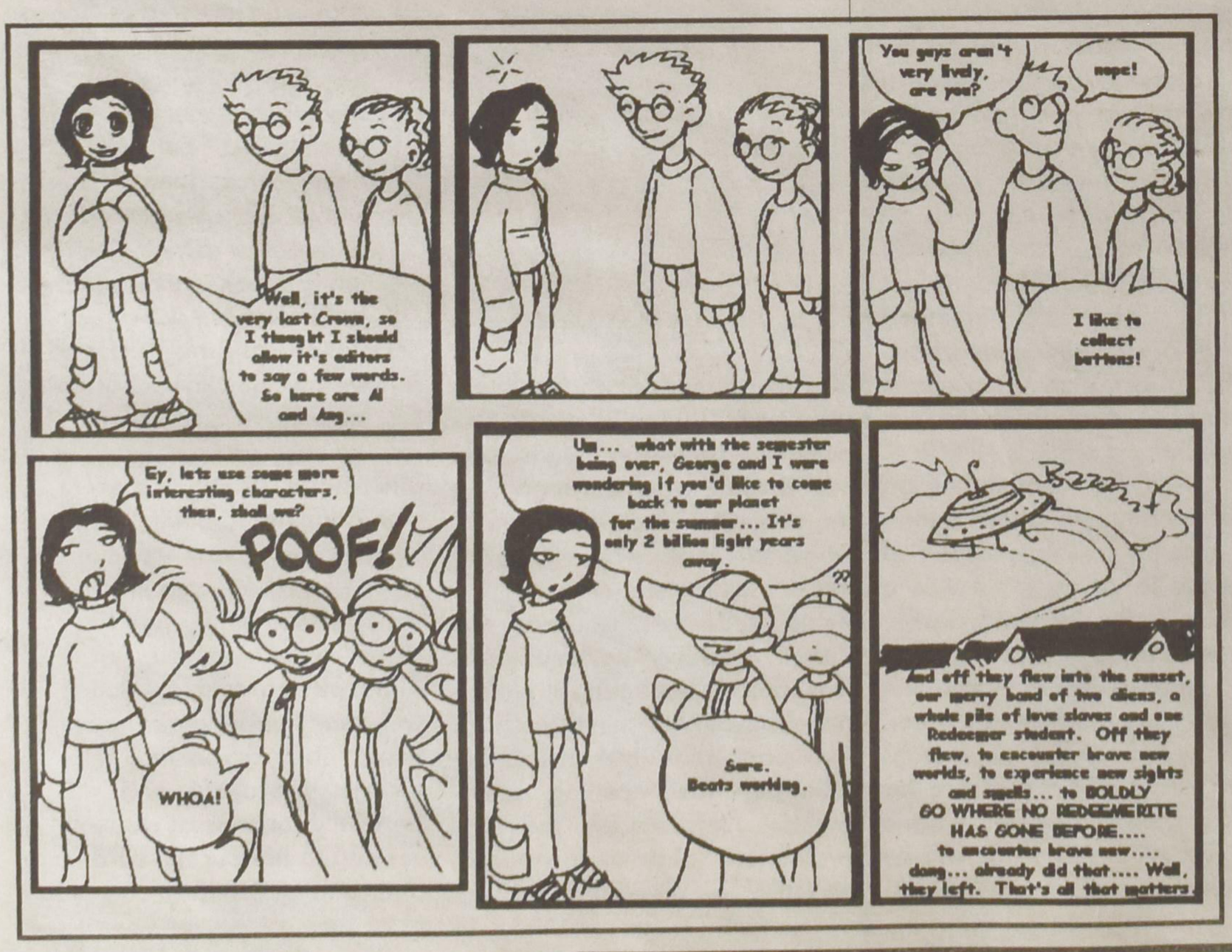
The first week the preacher spoke on commitment and how we all should dedicate ourselves to the service of God. The music director led the song "I Shall not be Moved."

The second week the minister preached on tithing and how we all should gladly give to the work of the Lord. The director led the song "Jesus Paid it All."

The third week the preacher spoke on gossiping and how we should all watch our tongues. The music director led the song "I love to Tell the Story."

With all this going on, the preacher became very disgusted over the situation and the following Sunday told the congregation that he was considering resigning. The musician led the song "Oh Why Not Tonight?"

As it came to pass, the preacher did indeed resign. The next week he informed the church that it was Jesus who led him there and it was Jesus that was taking him away. The music leader led the song "What a Friend We Have in Jesus."



straight from the haas'es mouth, prof. gene haas on bald heads:

"the top ten advantages"

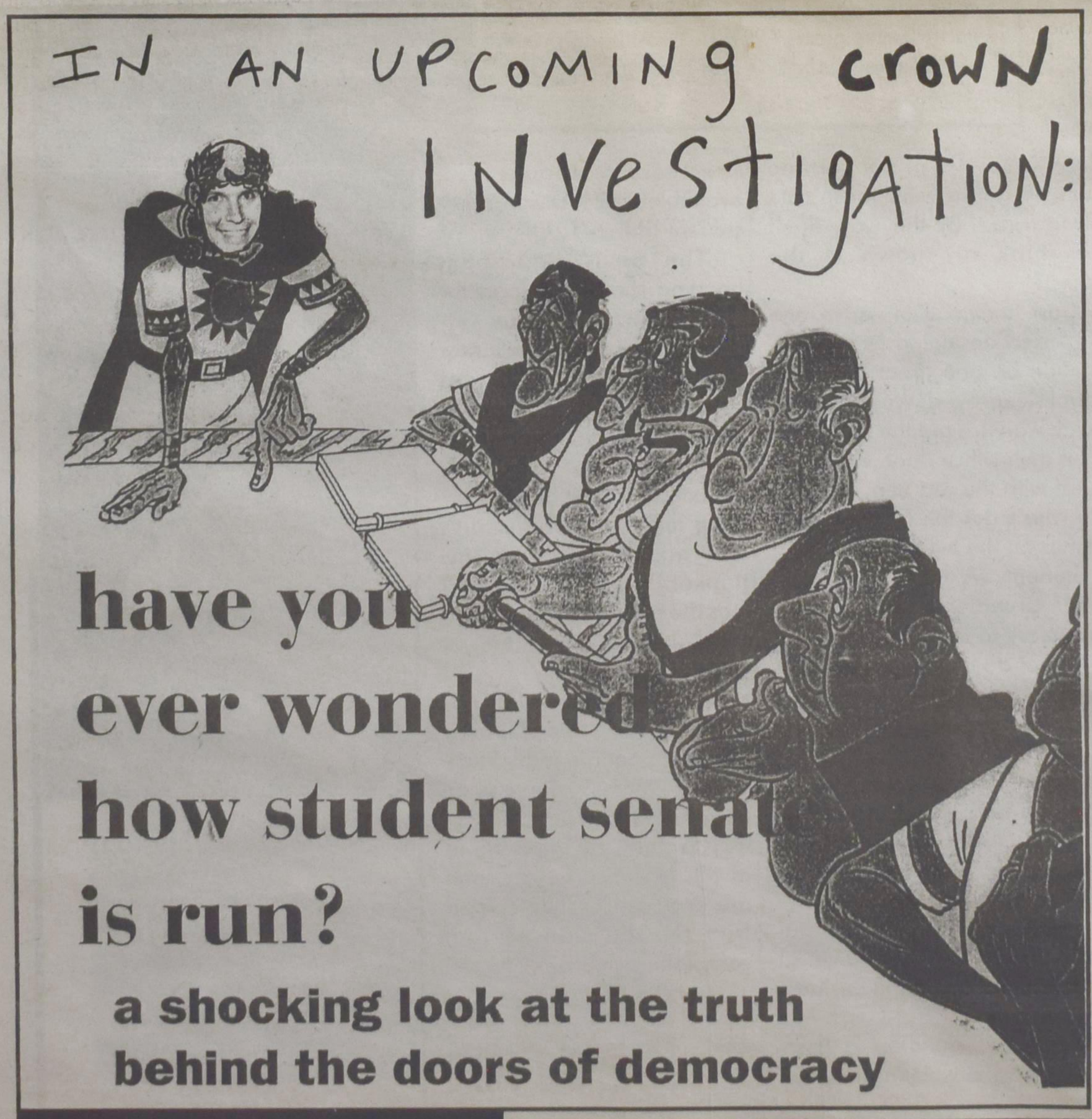
10. You learn humilty (every time you look in the mirror).
9. You learn patience (waiting for your hair to grow back).
8. People smile and stare at you much more as they pass you in the hall.
7. You save time getting ready in them morning (not having to wash, dry, comb and style).
6. You save money (no need for shampoo, haircuts, etc.).
5. You are much cooler when working out in the weight room, running, etc..
4. On a windy day you don't have to worry about your hair getting messed up.
3. When you have an itchy head, scratching it is much more effective and satisfying.
2. Your time for running the hundred metre dash is reduced by at least one tenth of a second.
1. You never get tangled in trees. (See Absalom, II Samuel 18:9)

Hairless for Hilltop was such a success that it inspired a top-ten list from Prof. Gene Haas. We felt that the other newly shorn victims\volunteers might like the encouragement. . . .
(in case you missed the shearing, see bald craniums below).

Hair lost for Hilltop

Announcing. . . A Computer at Peace with Itself

Sony has announced its own computer operating system now available on its hot new portable PC called the Vaio. Sony's chairman Asai Tawara said: "We intend to capture the high ground by putting a human, Japanese face on what has been until now an operating system that reflects Western cultural dominance. We have replaced the impersonal and unhelpful Microsoft error messages with our own Japanese haiku poetry. The haiku messages are just as informative as Microsoft's and they make you pause just long enough to restore necassary inner calm."



Yesterday it worked
Today it is not working
Windows is like that.

A file that big?
It might be very useful.
But now it is gone.

You seek a Web site.
It cannot be located.
Countless more exist.

Chaos reigns within.
Stop, reflect, and reboot.
Order shall return.

First snow, then silence.
This thousand dollar screen
dies
So beautifully.

With searching comes loss.
The presence of absence.
"June Sales.doc" not found.

The Tao that is seen
Is not the true Tao
Until you bring fresh toner.

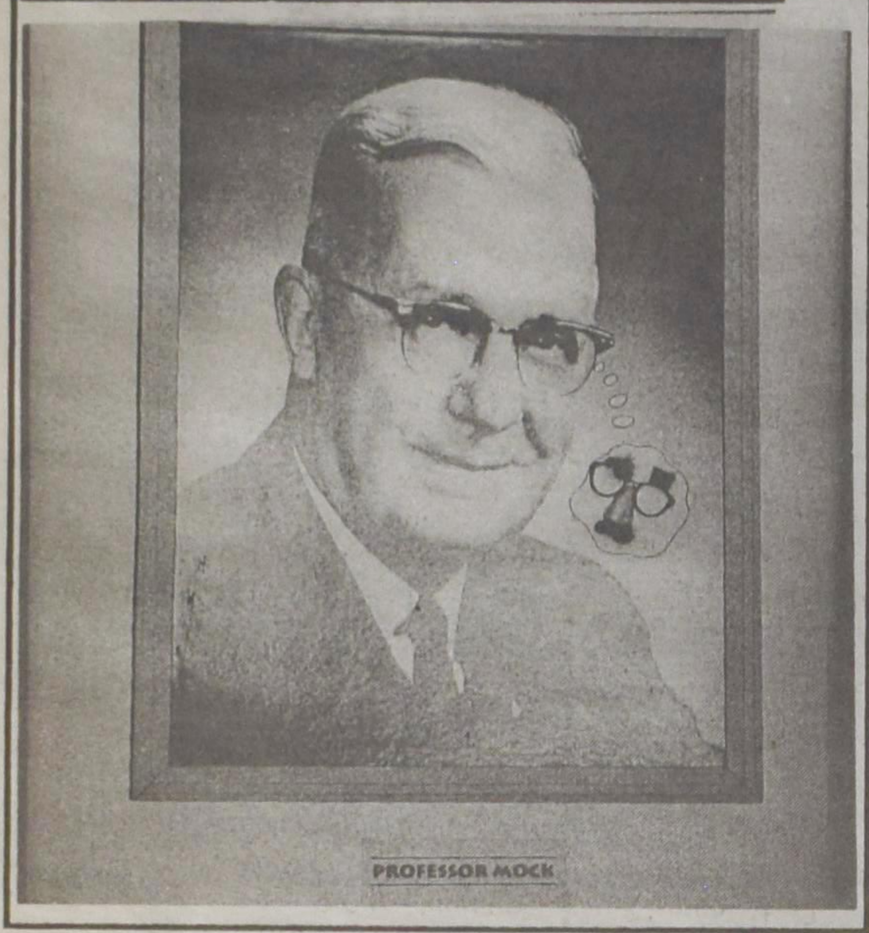
Windows NT crashed.
The Blue Screen of Death.
No one hears the screams.

Stay the patient course.
Of little worth is your ire.
The network is down.

You step in the stream
But the water has moved
on.
Page not found.

http://www3.sympatico.ca/dan.anderson

STAFF & FACULTY Mock Exhibition



PROFESSOR MOCK

starring professor mock

review by maggie vandermeer

The Redeemer Art Department's first annual Mock Art Exhibit was a roaring success. The snacks included Nanimo bars, and other squares, and the punch was served in plastic imitation cocktail glasses while lilting classical music played in the background. Also, there was lots of art.

Despite the numerous pieces by the prolific Prof. Mock, there were some noteworthy works of art to be enjoyed as well.

Dr. Bert Polman produced a series of works, his expert crayon strokes reminiscent of . . . some famous artist.

Chris Knowles created a delightful surrealistic piece which drew much attention.

Also outstanding were several pieces by Prof. Jennifer Chiang who used mixed media as well as pencil on paper. Further, from the science department, were several intriguing works by Dr. Gary Chiang and Dr. Henry Brouwer.

The English department showed signs of hidden talent in the watercolour painting by Dr. Deborah Bowen entitled "The Chicken and the Egg", as well as a strikingly accurate self-portrait by Prof. Hugh Cook.

Finally, for those who were not members of the artistic-I-see-deeper-meaning-in-that-scribble-elite, there was a wonderful piece by Rita Klein-Geltink (before she was Klein-Geltink) over which it was safe to ooh and aah because it still had the grade on it (A-). Although, personally, I think it deserved at least an A.

Scripture Cake:

4 1/2 cups I Kings 4:22 (which says "Solomon's daily provisions were thirty cors of fine flour")
1 cup Judges 5:25 ("He asked for water and she gave him milk.")
I cup Jeremiah 6:20 (you get the idea. . .)
1 cup I Samuel 30:12
I cup Nahum 3:12
1 cup Numbers 17:8
3 Tbsp I Samuel 14:25
1 tsp Leviticus 2:13
6 Jeremiah 17:11
1 1/2 cups Judges 4:19
2 tsp Amos 4:5
Season with
II Chronicles 9:9
Follow Solomon's advice for making good boys, and follow Proverbs 23:14, then read Colossians 3:14 and Hebrews 13:16. Bake at 325° F for 80-90 minutes.

REDEEMER COLLEGE VS THE academic WORLD

Dr. A. Both, vice-president of academics for Redeemer College, made a shocking announcement in the world of university disciplines when she proclaimed a new overarching department: Post-Modern Humanities Mathematical Literature. This new department will override, and include, all current academic departments. This bold new step outside of the traditional lines of university studies shocked the world.

"Shocking, these people need to reevaluate their sanity and their degrees," thundered Dr. A. Viate of Harvard, "They have they head in the clouds and need to be shot back down to earth to dwell with the rest of us. Who do these people think they are, Galileo? "

"I... um...well.... uh.... what I mean.... to say is.... would you like some coffee?" was the muttered reply from Prof. O.B. Tuse, head of the Oxford College department of Theatrical Improvisation.

Response from Redeemer College Community was overwhelmingly enthusiastic.

"This is great," gushed Dr. Gowest. "Finally we get to have the entire college academic community all under one department. This will save money, save time, and clear up all those little annoying fights about who walks in front of who when we get to wear those cute little gowns. By the way, don't you think my gown is the coolest?"

"Just think, all of us, in one pod," said an elated Dr. Woolliest, "it'll be one great big intellectual sleep-over! We can finally decide who has got the best comics on their office door, who's the fastest with the red pen, and decide who's got the nicest leather patches on the tweed jacket."

Students were not so enthusiastic. Comments ranged from derogatory to outright cruel.

"What does a degree in Post-Modern Humanities Mathematical Literature mean when the only courses I take are in volleyball and soccer?" raged one student. "I want to be a gym teacher, not some ivory tower roommate with Dr. Wooiliest."

"Post-math-modern-wwwhhhaaat?" said another student. "How's this gonna affect my Music, Child-Lit, and Business degree?"

"How do you offer a Post-Modern basket-weaving course? Are there textbooks available?" was all an English student had to say.

The new department heading comes into force for the new academic year 00-01. Enthusiasm for this new course that Redeemer was steaming was all that was received from the main office.

"Its great, just great. This new decision will be the new thing for all universities, this new academic ship is unthinkable, er, unsinkable." was the only quote Mr. Zweeland-deema would let us print.

All current Majors and Minors will be lumped under one giant degree to be know as B of PMHML. There is no committee currently under way to study the implications of the new degree; students are expected to fully comply with the decision without complaint or derision.

my bunny lament

my bunny, mr bunny
powder puff tail and
whiskered face
why did you never shave
or tell your name?
you came to my park
and left. oh my bunny,
if i see you again

THE First Ever Redeemer College (a liberal arts university)

Highly Scientific Opinion Poll on Opinions

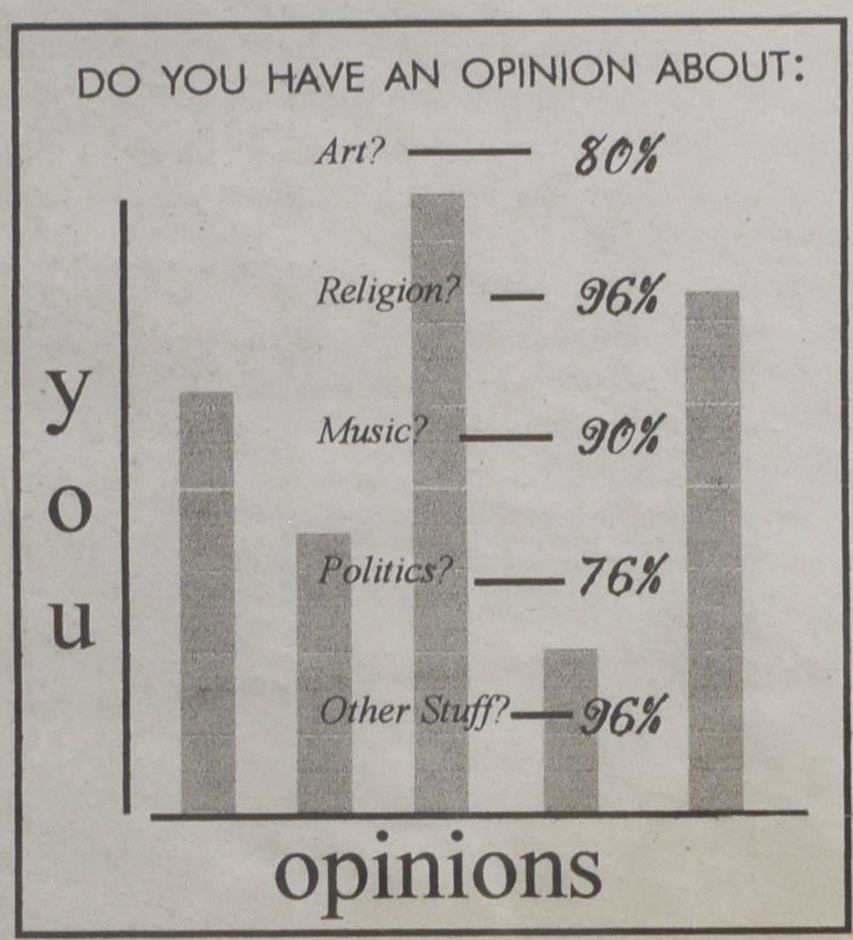
Opinions, opinions, everybody has them. Well, almost everyone.

Out of the 30 people who were polled, a startling 6 people currently had no opinion about anything. And then they started to fib ever so slightly as the proceeded to tell this clown reporter that they held opinions on everything from "art" to "other stuff".

Even one esteemed prof, whose named has been withheld to protect tenure, said "one should have knowledge, not opinions" wasn't immune from this Hegelian fallacy.[1] Sadly, under intense questioning, the modern mask of objectivity crumbled as he proceeded to claim that he liked his own opinion that he had no opinion.

When the people of Redeemer were asked "what is the ideal media to report on the opinions held by students at redeemer, 38% said the crown and 36% said student senate. When asked why they had chosen senate instead of the student newspaper, one student replied "Well, we elect them, so they represent us and can therefore tell us how we think on an issue." Another disagreed and felt that the crown was ideal because it "is the least censored of all Redeemer institutions.

Other students felt that the perfect media ranged from open forums to a soap box set up in the main lobby, the day care center to telepathy. One student felt that President Cooper was the perfect medium and berated me for asking such a silly question. This reporter promptly reported to the nearest classroom and wrote "I will not bother people with silly questions" fifty times on the black board.



This poll has an accuracy rating of 122%.

At the end of the survey, the students were asked the final, controversial question:

"Should there be a core course at redeemer that informs us as to how to formulate and express and opinion?", and an overwhelming minority, 7 students, said yes. They were completely alone in their feelings that Redeemer isn't turning out students who are the ideal in Renaissance scholars. However, I was able to tell these 7 students to rest easy, Redeemer would do their best to eliminate pesky majors and minors altogether in favour of more Core courses. And a startling number of students, 2 actually, informed this reporter that Redeemer already had a couple of core courses in how to formulate and express an opinion: Reformational Theology and Interdisciplinary Studies 121. When asked if I could use their names, they muttered something about the Goon squad and left.

And of course, one student, who for the sake of throwing off the decisive analysis that tells the truth, said that there shouldn't be any core courses at all. Whether they speak for us all or only shows that they'd be happier in vocational college, is anybody's guess but mostly mine. It is my survey, so I say yes.

Some people might question the results of this survey, but I think the figures speak for themselves. After all, statistics don't lie, according to 1 out of 2 crown editors polled. After due reflection on the results of this survey, this reporter can only conclude two things:

1) Redeemer can't even form a consensus on whether they have an opinion, never mind what the opinion is going to be,

2) Coffee tastes good but everyone loves an opinion poll.

[1]F.R Thomas Audulent. The Art of Misquoting for the sake of Your Thesis. Boston: Harvard Press, 2000.

clown

"Censorship doesn't legally exist here at Redeemer, but I don't think we're allowed to say that."
the editors

clown

c/o Redeemer Vocational College
777 Garner Rd. East
Ancaster, Ontario
1A2 B3C
(705) 648-2131 ext. 4218
clown@redeemer.com

Editors: Hypercritical
Hypocritical
Photo Editor: "Two Toes" Tony
Photographers:
Kurt Vonnegut
Jules R. Benjamin
Arts Editor: Phil I. Stine
Opinions Editor: Joe Haveman
Spiritual Editors: Ken Dryfhout
Shamalla
Cartoonist: Wonder Woman (art imitating art?)
Backpage Editor: Frank Fujiyama
The Source: Mikela
Layout Editor: the ducks
Contributors: are
a) protected under the Witness Protection Program.
b) work for the National Enquirer.
c) an infinite number of monkeys.
d)enemployed alumni waiting for a job in the front office.
e) Mindy and Buttons.
f)rockin' scholar Barbie.
g) the compliant department.
i) the complaint department.
j) mallard ducks, no geese among us.

Faulty Advisor: Trent Reznor & Karl Marx
Advertising: Contact Bob Dole at the clown.

The opinions expressed in this paper are valid, true, and expressed well and reflect those held by Redeemer College's student body, faculty, or administration, no exceptions.

clown is published whenever the editors feel like it. (The editors themselves really have no control over anything but feel like they do.) They thank the students for the funding that enabled them to have this neat office that is way bigger than any professors.

Letters to the editor may sent to the address above, mailed on campus via Redeemer's intra-campus mail (ICM), saved on the clown disc, emailed to "*clown@redeemer.on.ca*" or slipped under the door of the clown office (room 126). But we won't print it and really don't care what you think: this is our paper.

Letters to the editor will be edited. Heavily. None of you can spell or string together two words witout stumbling.

Subscription enquiries may be addressed to the clown and will be lost. But thanks for caring.

Spelling slips and grammatical gaffs are impossible. If it looks wrong, you are reading it incorrectly.

crown is published by the editors and is dedicated to Polkaroo.

clown

redeemer college's satirical newspaper

The Pen and the Prof

construction begins for Redeemer's on Campus Pub

by Anthony VanderChekhov

Most students, staff, and faculty have noticed the construction currently under way in the back 40. What most people are completely unaware of is the historical magnitude behind the decision to construct a pub on the campus of Ontario's only Christian University.

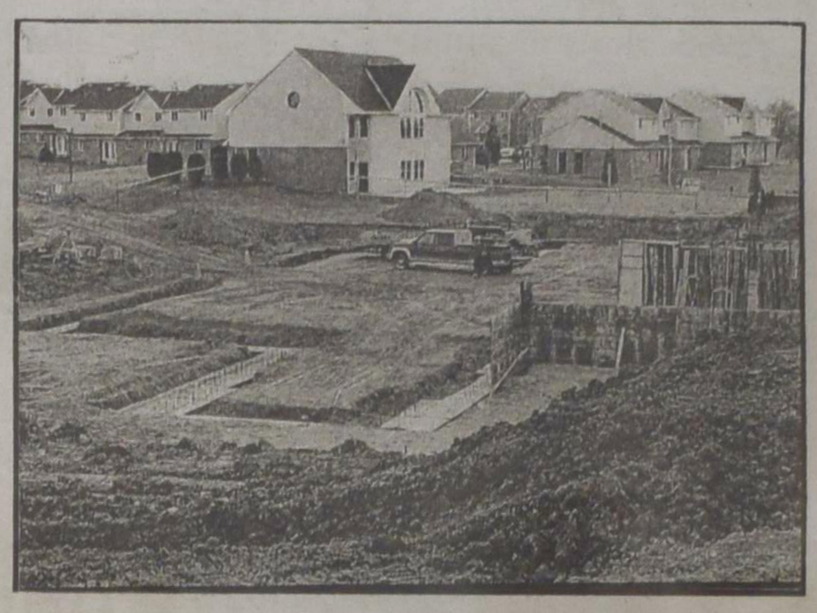
Actual construction on the new pub

"This is an incredible occurrence," said Chris Van Heineken, Redeemer's newest publicist, "a pub in a modern Christian university has never been done before, to the best of my knowledge. We feel that with this new pub, affectionately named *The Pen and The Prof*, we can easily increase enrollment by over 500%."

An enthusiastic supporter of the project, Dr. Harry Van Dyke, has been quoted as saying, "Fantastic. This has been long overdue; to have a place where students can socialize in an entirely Christian atmosphere, to partake of the beverages that dedicated Christians have spent decades perfecting in monasteries and breweries. I wonder if I can hold my history classes there?"

Lest you wonder if this project has emerged from the woodwork overnight, just remember back to the Staley lectures whent Dr. Hunter strongly advocated the appearance of a pub here at Redeemer.

"Yes, Dr. Hunter was the motivation for this new pub," a highly placed, official source told the crown, "but the administration would like you to believe it was solely their idea."



As with all changes at Redeemer, the new pub has not emerged among us without some controversy. Various students were less than enthusiastic.

"Dancing and card games are perfectly okay," said one student, "but alcohol, along with riding bikes on Sunday, has no place in a Christian university."

Another student was concerned with the type of beverage that would be served:

"We can probably all agree that Guinness is okay; it was first brewed by a very strong Christian. The same goes wine. But I believe that Tequila is a secular drink and should be excluded from the menu."

(To handle this student concern, a committee is being formed to define exactly what comprises a Christian beverage. Applications for student reps are now being accepted in Student Life.)

Still, the new building has overwhelming support from the student population. One student was especially happy about the possibility to drink in an atmosphere where alcoholic beverages would be enjoyed and not abused:

The three story building will have a British style pub on the ground floor, a card and pool hall on the second floor, and a discotheque on the top floor. Several complaints have been lodged by area pubs and dance halls about the unfair competition. However, all we have to say is "Cheers!"

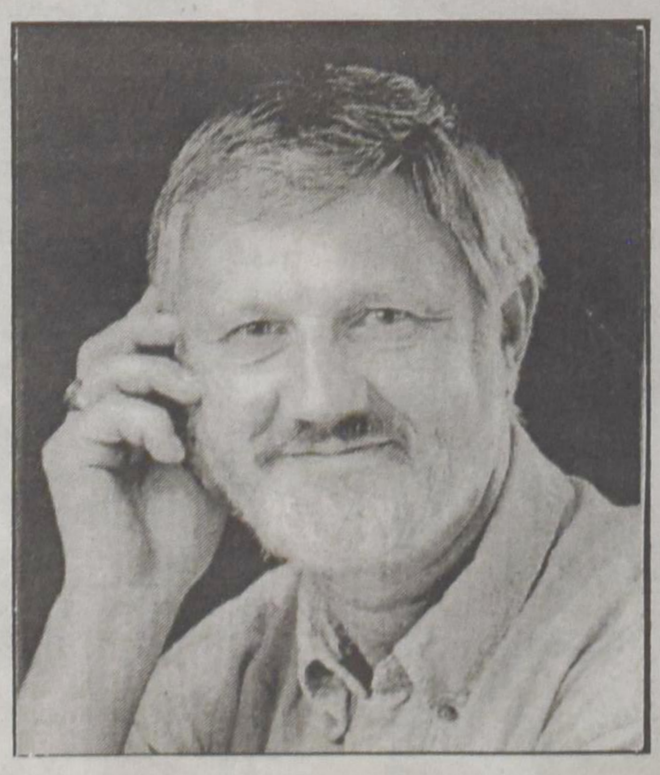
Notice to all Crown Staff: as soon as The Pen and The Prof opens, all future editorial meetings will be held there.

upcoming publications

Hugh Cook to release new book: *Bran Muffins*

Young Jenny Koekjebakker has just discovered a terrible thing. She's lost her treasure trove of old Dutch recipes that her mother brought to Canada from the old country. Now what will she bake for the local school bazaar?

This is only the first of the many exciting sagas in Hugh Cook's third (and possibly best) collection of short stories, *Bran Muffins*. But don't take my word for it— read what the critics have to say:



"Sure there's lots of fiction out there about small towns in rural Canada. But if you were bored by Stephen Leacock's outdated satire, mystified by W.O. Mitchell's *Who Has Seen the Wind*, and depressed by Margaret Laurence's Manawaka novels, then read Hugh Cook's *Bran Muffins*. You'll feelbetter. You may even eat healthier."
—Christian Courier

"If you loved *Cracked Wheat* and *Home in Alfalfa*, you'll hunger for *BRAN MUFFINS!*"
—crown literary supplement

"Dr. Cook is the only writer I know of to combine moral and dietary fibre."
—Canadian Bakers' Association

"I laughed. I cried. Then I baked muffins."
—Mrs. Judy Cook.

"There's absolutely MUFFIN like it!"
—Tim Horton's

"Buy all the whole trilogy in a lovely box set. Makes a great Christmas gift!"
—Mrs. Alice Wolters